COMPLIANCE BOUNDARY MONITORING WELLS

WELL ID	NORTHING	EASTING	MEASURING PT FEET (msl.)	WELL PAD FEET (msl.)	GROUND SURFACE FEET (msl.)
CB-1	643345.48	946546.01	2212.91	2210.57	2210.41
CB-2	642685.16	945930.77	2170.50	2168.05	2167.79
CB-3R	642444.28	945214.05	2138.97	-------	2135.83
CB-4	642173.40	944539.22	2067.24	2064.87	2064.77
CB-4B	642177.82	944537.29	2066.34	2064.25	2064.04
CB-5	641932.33	944098.37	2040.49	2037.91	2037.86
CB-6	643018.53	943602.51	2035.48	2032.71	2032.46
CB-7	643584.34	943192.08	2034.72	2032.13	2032.00
CB-8	645101.56	943051.28	2145.19	2142.50	2142.49
CB-9	645591.79	944233.05	2182.09	-------	2178.86
GW-1	644238.84	946531.79	2181.16	-------	2178.71

LEGEND

- CB-1 — BACKGROUND MONITORING WELL (SURVEYED)
- CB-8 — DOWNGRADIENT MONITORING WELL (SURVEYED)
- PZ-5 — VOLUNTEER MONITORING WELL OR PIEZOMETER (SURVEYED)
- DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS ASHEVILLE PLANT
- 500 ft COMPLIANCE BOUNDARY
- WASTE BOUNDARY
- GENERALIZED GROUNDWATER FLOW DIRECTION (HIGH CONFIDENCE)
  - SUPPORTED BY GROUNDWATER ELEVATION DATA AND STRONG TOPOGRAPHIC DATA

SOURCES:

1. 2014 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH OBTAINED FROM WSP FLOWN ON APRIL 17, 2014.
2. DRAWING HAS BEEN SET WITH A PROJECTION OF NORTH CAROLINA STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM FIPS 3200 (NAD 83).
3. PARCEL BOUNDARY WAS OBTAINED FROM BUNCOMBE COUNTY GIS DATA AT *http://gis.buncombecounty.org/buncomap/Map_All.html*
4. COMPLIANCE MONITORING WELL LOCATIONS AND WASTE BOUNDARY FROM FCA OF NC, SURVEY DATED MARCH 2009. COMPLIANCE WELLS CB-3R, CB-9 AND SG-1 SURVEYED BY FCA OF NC, SURVEY DATED 2012-11-28.
5. ADDITIONAL MONITORING WELL AND PIEZOMETER LOCATIONS WERE BASED ON DATA PROVIDED BY PROGRESS ENERGY.
6. TOPOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM THE NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION. TOPOGRAPHY TIED TO NC STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM FIPS 3200 (NAD 83), ELEVATIONS ARE IN FEET (msl.)

NOTE:

1. CONTOUR LINES ARE USED FOR REPRESENTATIVE PURPOSES ONLY AND ARE NOT TO BE USED FOR DESIGN OR CONSTRUCTION.

GRAPHIC SCALE

400 0 100 200 400

(IN FEET)

synTerra
148 River Street, Suite 220
Greenville, South Carolina 29601
864-421-9999
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DRAWN BY:	S. ARLEDGE	DATE:	2014-07-23
CHECKED BY:	KATHY WEBB	DATE:	2014-07-23
PROJECT MANAGER:	KATHY WEBB		
LAYOUT NAME:	FIG 1 (GEN GW FLOW)		

DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS

ASHEVILLE PLANT
200 CP & L DRIVE
ARDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

FIGURE 1
GENERALIZED GROUNDWATER FLOW DIRECTIONS

Exhibit I

LAKE JULIAN
POWELL CREEK
NPDES OUTFALL 001
SD-01
L-01
FB-02
RAW WATER INTAKE
A-01
A-02
B-01
INTERSTATE 26
EASTBOUND
WESTBOUND
FRENCH BROAD RIVER
FLOW
CB-8
CB-9
NPDES OUTFALL 002
64EO-3
GW-2
Ponded Water-F
C-02
64EO-1&2
GW-3
CB-7
C-01
D-01
E-01
CB-6
E-01
E-03
E-02
CB-5
LAKE COMA
M-01
GW-4
82EO-1&2
PZ-22
CB-3
GW-5
K-02
CB-3R
K-01
CB-4B
CB-4
P-01
PZ-17D
PZ-17S
PZ-16
PZ-19
PZ-26
GW-1
CB-1
PZ-23
PZ-24
CB-2
UNNAMED TRIBUTARY
FB-01

LEGEND

- P-01 — FLOW MEASUREMENT AND SEEP SAMPLE LOCATION
- CB-4 — COMPLIANCE GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELL
- MW-17S — VOLUNTARY GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELL AND/OR PIEZOMETER
- NPDES OUTFALL 001 — NPDES OUTFALL LOCATION
- DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS ASHEVILLE PLANT
- 500 ft COMPLIANCE BOUNDARY
- WASTE BOUNDARY
- LAKE JULIAN, FRENCH BROAD RIVER, LAKE COMA, AND UNNAMED POND BOUNDARIES
- APPROXIMATE SEEP LOCATION AND FLOW DIRECTION

SOURCES:

1. 2012 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH OBTAINED FROM NRCS GEOSPATIAL DATA GATEWAY AT *http://datagateway.nrcs.usda.gov/*
2. *2014 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH WAS OBTAINED FROM WSP FLOWN ON APRIL 17, 2014.*

GRAPHIC SCALE
400 0 200 400 800
(IN FEET)

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CHECKED BY:	KATHY WEBB	DATE:	2014-07-28
PROJECT MANAGER:	KATHY WEBB		
LAYOUT NAME:	FIG 2 (SEEP SAMPLE LOCATIONS)		

DUKE ENERGY® PROGRESS

ASHEVILLE PLANT
200 CP & L DRIVE
ARDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

FIGURE 2
IDENTIFIED SEEPS AND WATER QUALITY SAMPLE LOCATION MAP

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
WESTERN DIVISION
No. 5:15-CR-62-H
No. 5:15-CR-67-H
No. 5:15-CR-68-H

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	)	
	)	
v.	)	JOINT FACTUAL STATEMENT
	)	
DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES LLC	)	
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC	)	
DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS, INC.	)	

I. INTRODUCTION

Defendants Duke Energy Business Services LLC ("DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES"), Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC ("DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS"), and Duke Energy Progress, Inc. ("DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS"),(collectively referred to as "Defendants") and the United States of America, by and through the United States Attorneys for the Eastern District of North Carolina, the Middle District of North Carolina and the Western District of North Carolina and the Environmental Crimes Section of the United States Department of Justice (collectively referred to herein as "the United States" or "the government"), hereby agree that this Joint Factual Statement is a true and accurate statement of the Defendants' criminal conduct and that it provides a sufficient basis for the Defendants' pleas of guilty to the following charging documents and the terms of the Plea Agreements:

United States v. Duke Energy Business Services, LLC, and Duke Energy Progress, Inc., No. 5:15-CR-62-H;

United States v. Duke Energy Business Services, LLC, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, and Duke Energy Progress, Inc., No. 5:15-CR-67-H; and

United States v. Duke Energy Business Services, LLC, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, and Duke Energy Progress, Inc., No. 5:15-CR-68-H.

The charges from the Middle District of North Carolina and the Western District of North Carolina have been transferred to the Eastern District of North Carolina for purposes of plea pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 20. The Defendants' guilty pleas are to be entered pursuant to the Plea Agreements signed and dated this same day.

II. OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND

Dan River Steam Station – Middle District of North Carolina

1. From at least January 1, 2012, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES failed to properly maintain and inspect the two stormwater pipes underneath the primary coal ash basin at the Dan River Steam Station in Eden, North Carolina. On February 2, 2014, one of those pipes failed, resulting in the discharge of approximately 27 million gallons of coal ash wastewater and between 30,000 and 39,000 tons of coal ash into the Dan River. The coal ash travelled more than 62 miles downriver to the Kerr Lake Reservoir on the border of

North Carolina and Virginia. Video camera inspections of the other pipe, conducted in the aftermath of the spill, revealed that the other pipe had also deteriorated, allowing coal ash wastewater to leak into the pipe, and that DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES had not taken appropriate action to prevent unauthorized discharges from the pipe.

Cape Fear Steam Electric Plant –
Middle District of North Carolina

2. DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES also failed to maintain the riser structures in two of the coal ash basins at the Cape Fear Steam Electric Plant, resulting in the unauthorized discharges of leaking coal ash wastewater into the Cape Fear River.

Asheville, Riverbend, & Lee Steam Stations –
Eastern and Western Districts of North Carolina

3. Additionally, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS' and DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS's coal combustion facilities throughout North Carolina allowed unauthorized discharges of pollutants from coal ash basins via "seeps" into adjacent waters of the United States. Three of those facilities include the Asheville Steam Electric Generating Plant, the H.F. Lee Steam Electric Plant, and the Riverbend Steam Station. At those facilities, discharges from naturally occurring seeps were channeled by DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES to flow through

engineered drains and ditches into waters of the United States without obtaining or maintaining the necessary permits.

4. The Defendants' conduct violated the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (commonly referred to as the "Clean Water Act," or "CWA"). 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 et seq. More specifically, the criminal investigation, conducted out of the Eastern District of North Carolina, revealed the following:

DEFENDANTS AND CORPORATE STRUCTURE

5. Duke Energy Corporation is an energy company headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina.

6. Duke Energy Corporation is a holding company whose direct and indirect subsidiaries operate in the United States and Latin America. Duke Energy Corporation's wholly-owned subsidiaries include: DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS; Progress Energy, Inc. ("Progress Energy"); DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS; and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES.

7. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, a North Carolina limited liability company, is a regulated public utility primarily engaged in the generation, transmission, distribution and sale of electricity in portions of North Carolina and South Carolina.

8. Progress Energy, a North Carolina corporation headquartered in Raleigh, North Carolina, is a holding company which holds, among other entities, DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS.

9. DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS, a North Carolina corporation, is a regulated public utility primarily engaged in the generation, transmission, distribution and sale of electricity in portions of North Carolina and South Carolina. Prior to the July 2, 2012, merger between Duke Energy Corporation and Progress Energy, Inc., DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS was known as Carolina Power & Light, Inc., d/b/a Progress Energy Carolinas.

10. "Progress Energy Carolinas" will refer to DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS before the merger.

11. DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES provides shared services to all of Duke Energy Corporation's operating utilities nationwide, including: Legal Counsel; Central Engineering & Services; Environmental, Health & Safety; Ethics and Compliance; and Coal Combustion Products.

12. During the time period relevant to the charges, within the State of North Carolina, the Defendants and/or their predecessors owned and operated the following facilities with coal ash basins:

FACILITY	OWNER/ OPERATOR	NUMBER OF COAL ASH BASINS	ADJACENT WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES	FEDERAL JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Allen Steam Station (Gaston County)	Duke Energy Carolinas	2	Lake Wylie & Catawba River	WDNC
Asheville Steam Electric Generating Plant (Buncombe County)	Duke Energy Progress	2	French Broad River	WDNC

Belews Creek Steam Station (Stokes County)	Duke Energy Carolinas	1	Belews Lake & Dan River	MDNC
Buck Steam Station (Rowan County)	Duke Energy Carolinas	3	Yadkin River & High Rock Lake	MDNC
Cape Fear Steam Electric Plant (Chatham County)	Duke Energy Progress	5	Cape Fear River	MDNC
Cliffside Steam Station (Rutherford & Cleveland Counties)	Duke Energy Carolinas	3	Broad River	WDNC
Dan River Steam Station (Rockingham County)	Duke Energy Carolinas	2	Dan River	MDNC
H.F. Lee Steam Electric Plant (Wayne County)	Duke Energy Progress	5	Neuse River	EDNC
L.V. Sutton Electric Plant (New Hanover County)	Duke Energy Progress	2	Cape Fear River & Sutton Lake[1]	EDNC
Marshall Steam Station (Catawba County)	Duke Energy Carolinas	1	Lake Norman	WDNC
Mayo Steam Electric Plant (Person County)	Duke Energy Progress	1	Mayo Lake	MDNC
Riverbend Steam Station (Gaston County)	Duke Energy Carolinas	2	Catawba River	WDNC
Roxboro Steam Electric Plant (Person County)	Duke Energy Progress	2	Hyco River	MDNC
Weatherspoon Steam Electric Plant (Robeson County)	Duke Energy Progress	1	Lumber River	EDNC

[1] While the parties agree that Sutton Lake receives wastewater from the L.V. Sutton Electric Plant, the status of Sutton Lake as a "water of the State" or "water of the United States" is part of ongoing federal civil litigation. See Cape Fear River Watch, Inc. v. Duke Energy Progress, Inc., 25 F.Supp.3d 798, 808-809 (2014). The Defendants do not concede that Sutton Lake is a jurisdictional water in this Joint Factual Statement.

COAL COMBUSTION PLANTS AND COAL ASH BASINS

13. Power plants that generate electricity through the combustion of coal create a number of waste byproducts. Among those waste byproducts are "coal combustion residuals" or "CCRs." CCRs include fly ash, bottom ash, coal slag, and flue gas desulfurized gypsum. Fly ash and bottom ash are both commonly referred to as "coal ash." Coal ash contains various heavy metals and potentially hazardous constituents, including arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, lead, manganese, mercury, nitrates, sulfates, selenium, and thallium. Coal ash has not been defined, itself, as a "hazardous substance" or "hazardous waste" under federal law, although some constituents of coal ash may be hazardous in sufficient quantities or concentrations.

14. Coal ash basins (also known as "coal ash ponds," "coal ash impoundments," or "ash dikes") may be part of the waste treatment system at coal-fired power plants. Historically, the Defendants' coal ash basins were unlined earthen impoundments and typically operated as follows: Coal ash was mixed with water to form slurry. The coal ash slurry was carried through sluice pipe lines to the coal ash basin. Settling occurred in the coal ash basin, in which particulate matter and free chemical components separated from the slurry and settled at the bottom of the basin. Less contaminated water remained at the surface of the basin, from which it could eventually be

discharged if authorized under relevant law and permits. In some instances, such as the Dan River Steam Station, water at the surface of the primary basin, flowed into a secondary basin, where further settling and treatment occurred before its discharge into a water of the United States.

15. Coal ash basins generally continued to store settled ash and particulate material for years or decades. From time to time, the Defendants dredged settled coal ash from the basins, storing the ash in dry stacks on plant property.

16. A total of approximately 108 million tons of coal ash are currently held in coal ash basins owned and operated by the Defendants in North Carolina. Duke Energy Corporation subsidiaries also operate facilities with coal ash basins in South Carolina (approximately 5.99 million tons of coal ash), Kentucky (approximately 1.5 million tons of coal ash), Indiana (approximately 35.6 million tons of coal ash), and Ohio (approximately 5.9 million tons of coal ash).

17. Each of the Defendants' facilities in North Carolina with coal ash basins sought and received permits to discharge treated coal ash wastewater through specified permitted outfalls into waters of the United States, including those listed in paragraph 12.

III. LEGAL AND REGULATORY BACKGROUND

CLEAN WATER ACT

18. The Clean Water Act is a federal law enacted to "restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters." 33 U.S.C. § 1251(a).

19. The Act prohibits the discharge of any pollutant into waters of the United States except in compliance with a permit issued pursuant to the CWA under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") by the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") or by a state with an approved permit program. 33 U.S.C. §§ 1311(a) and 1342.

20. The Act defines "discharge of a pollutant" as "the addition of any pollutant to navigable waters from any point source." 33 U.S.C. § 1362(12). The term "pollutant" includes a wide range of materials, including solid waste and industrial waste. 33 U.S.C. § 1362(6). Coal ash and coal ash wastewater are pollutants.

21. A "point source" is a "confined and discrete conveyance, including . . . any pipe . . . from which pollutants are or may be discharged." 33 U.S.C. § 1362(14). Pipes and channelized ditches conveying stormwater or wastewater to surface waters are point sources.

22. "Navigable waters" are defined in the Act as "waters of the United States." 33 U.S.C. § 1362(7). "Waters of the United States" include rivers and streams "which would affect or could affect interstate or foreign commerce including any such waters . . . [w]hich are or could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes . . . [and the] [t]ributaries of [such] waters." 40 C.F.R. § 122.2. The following rivers are "waters of the United States": (1) Broad River; (2) French Broad River; (3) Cape Fear River; (4) Catawba River; (5) Dan River; (6) Yadkin-Pee Dee River; (7) Neuse River; (8) Lumber River; (9) Roanoke River; (10) Hyco River; (11) all tributaries of those rivers, including the South Fork of the Catawba River and Crutchfield Branch; and (12) all lakes and reservoirs exchanging water with those rivers, including, but not limited to, Belews Lake, Lake Norman, Mayo Lake, High Rock Lake, Sutton Lake,[2] and Kerr Reservoir.

23. Permits regulating discharges of pollutants (other than dredge and fill material) to waters of the United States are issued under the NPDES permit program. See 33 U.S.C. § 1342. Under the NPDES permit program, persons or entities who wish to discharge one or more pollutants must apply for an permit from the proper state or federal agency. See 40 C.F.R. § 122.21. A "permit" is "an authorization, license, or equivalent

[2] See note 1, supra.

control document issued by EPA or an 'approved State' to implement the requirements of [the CWA]." "Permit" does not include a "draft permit" or a "proposed permit" which has not yet been the subject of final agency action. 40 C.F.R. § 122.2 (emphasis added). Thus, an application for a permit does not provide the applicant with authority or permission to discharge under the Act.

24. States can seek approval from EPA to administer and enforce the CWA NPDES permit program. 33 U.S.C. § 1342(b). EPA's approval of a state program does not affect the United States' ability to enforce the Act's provisions. 33 U.S.C. § 1342(i).

25. On October 19, 1975, EPA approved the State of North Carolina's application to administer the NPDES Program. 40 Fed. Reg. 51493-05 (Nov. 5, 1975).

26. NPDES permits typically contain, among other things, effluent limitations; water quality standards; monitoring and reporting requirements; standard conditions applicable to all permits; and special conditions where appropriate. See 33 U.S.C. § 1342; 40 C.F.R. §§ 122.41-122.50.

27. All of DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS' and DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS's facilities with coal ash basins in North Carolina are required to comply with the following Standard Conditions,

incorporated into their NPDES permit. See also 40 C.F.R. § 122.41.

a. The Permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this permit with a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment. Standard Conditions, Section B(2) ("General Conditions").

b. The Permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the Permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit. Standard Conditions, Section C(2) ("Operation and Maintenance of Pollution Controls").

IV. FACTUAL BASIS FOR PLEA AND RELEVANT CONDUCT

DAN RIVER STEAM STATION

28. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS owns and operates the Dan River Steam Station ("DAN RIVER"), located on the Dan River in the Roanoke River Basin near Eden, North Carolina. DAN RIVER began operating in 1949 as a coal combustion plant. The coal combustion unit at DAN RIVER was retired in 2012. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS now operates a combined cycle natural gas facility to generate steam and electricity at DAN RIVER.

29. In 1956, the first coal ash basin at DAN RIVER was constructed to store existing and future coal ash. This basin is commonly referred to as the "Primary Ash Basin."

30. Two stormwater pipes run under the Primary Ash Basin: a 48-inch stormwater pipe and a 36-inch stormwater pipe. Both

were designed to carry stormwater from the site to the Dan River.

31. The 48-inch stormwater pipe predates the Primary Ash Basin. As installed in 1954, the 48-inch stormwater pipe was composed of galvanized corrugated metal pipe ("CMP").

32. From 1968 to 1969, the Primary Ash Basin was expanded over the original outfall of the 48-inch stormwater pipe. When the Primary Ash Basin was expanded, the 48-inch stormwater pipe was extended using reinforced concrete. After the expansion, the 48-inch stormwater pipe was a total of 1130 feet in length, of which approximately 786 feet was corrugated metal pipe and approximately 344 feet was reinforced concrete pipe ("RCP").

33. The 36-inch stormwater pipe is composed of reinforced concrete pipe that is approximately 600 feet in length.

34. Between 1976 and 1977, the expanded Primary Ash Basin was divided to form a second basin, commonly referred to as the "Secondary Ash Basin."

35. The Primary Ash Basin has a surface area of approximately 27 acres and a total storage capacity of approximately 477 acre-feet (or 155,431,132 gallons). The Secondary Ash Basin has a surface area of approximately 12 acres and a total storage capacity of approximately 187 acre-feet (or 60,934,277 gallons). In 2013, the basins contained a total of

approximately 1,150,000 cubic yards (or 232,270,130 gallons) of coal ash.

36. In a 2009 EPA Dam Safety Assessment, it was noted that the Primary and Secondary coal ash basins were:

> Classified as a significant hazard potential structure due to the environmental damage that would be caused by misoperation or failure of the structure.

DAN RIVER STEAM STATION NPDES PERMIT

37. On January 31, 2013, the State of North Carolina, through its Department of Environment and Natural Resources ("DENR") - Division of Water Resources ("DWR"), issued a new NDPES permit to DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS. Effective March 2013, NPDES Permit NC0003468 ("the Dan River Permit"), and authorized the discharge of wastewater from specified outfalls at DAN RIVER.

38. The Dan River Permit required, among other things, that the facility meet the dam design and dam safety requirements set forth in North Carolina regulations at 15A NCAC 2K.

39. Pursuant to 15A NCAC 2K.0301, dams such as the Primary Ash Basin at DAN RIVER are subject to annual safety inspections by state authorities.

40. In 2006, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, with the assistance of DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES, applied for a NDPES stormwater permit for the 48-inch and the 36-inch pipes. As of February 2, 2014, DENR had not issued DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS an individual or general NDPES stormwater permit for either the 48-inch or 36-inch pipe.

41. A NPDES stormwater permit is different than the NPDES permit issued for the discharge of wastewater from a treatment system. Stormwater permits generally do not allow the discharge of wastewater or particulates from coal ash basins or other industrial processes.

42. Neither the 48-inch nor the 36-inch stormwater pipe was a permitted outfall under the Dan River permit for wastewater. Neither DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS nor any predecessor received authorization pursuant to the CWA and NPDES program to discharge wastewater from the coal ash basins or coal ash stored in those basins from either the 48-inch or 36-inch stormwater pipe under the Primary Coal Ash Basin at DAN RIVER.

1979 DOCUMENTED PROBLEMS WITH STORMWATER PIPES

43. In 1979, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS (at that time called Duke Power Company) inspected the 48-inch stormwater pipe through its Design Engineering and Station Support group. Although no major leaks were identified, engineers noted water

leaking into the pipe. Repairs to the 48-inch stormwater pipe were undertaken in response to this inspection.

44. Also in 1979, the Design Engineering and Station Support group inspected the 36-inch stormwater pipe. Twenty-two joints in the 36-inch pipe were noted for major leaks. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS/Duke Power Company employees recommended that the company repair the leaks or reroute the drain lines, noting that the discharges could be violations of EPA regulations. Repairs to the 36-inch stormwater pipe were undertaken in response to this inspection.

INSPECTIONS OF DAN RIVER COAL ASH BASINS AND DUKE ENERGY'S RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS

45. Pursuant to the requirements of North Carolina's dam safety laws, from 1981 through 2007, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS/Duke Power Company hired consultants to perform inspections of the coal ash basins at DAN RIVER every five years. The consultants generated reports containing their observations and recommendations that were provided to and reviewed by DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS/Duke Power Company. In the same time period and pursuant to the same laws, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS/Duke Power Company performed its own annual inspections of the coal ash basins. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS/Duke Power Company also performed less-detailed monthly inspections of the coal ash basins.

46. In 1981, Engineering Firm #1 conducted the first of five independent inspections of DAN RIVER's ash basins. The report clearly identified the 48-inch pipe as part CMP/part RCP and the 36-inch pipe as RCP. **(See Appendix, Diagram 1).**

47. The 1981 report made the following recommendation, among others:

> The culverts which pass beneath the primary basin may become potential sources of problems, particularly as they age. As noted previously, there seemed to be more water leaving the 52/36-inch culvert than entering it. It is recommended that within the next several months the flow rate at each of the culverts be established, then checked at 6-month intervals thereafter. If there is a significantly greater flow of water leaving the pipes than entering them, the pipes should be inspected for leakage, as was done in 1979, and any needed repairs implemented.

48. The original schematic drawings in the 1981 report were maintained on site at DAN RIVER.

49. A 1984 Annual Inspection report prepared by DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS/Duke Power Company recommended that "[f]low in the culverts beneath the primary basin should continue to be monitored at six month intervals" and that "[t]he corrugated metal pipe at the west end of the basin should be monitored in future inspections for further damage from seepage flow."

50. A 1985 Annual Inspection report prepared by DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS/Duke Power Company clearly identified the 48-inch stormwater pipe as CMP. At least one of the engineers who participated in the 1985 annual inspection continues to work for

DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES, although currently in a different capacity, and, in fact, conducted two inspections of the Primary and Secondary Ash Basins in 2008.

51. In 1986, Engineering Firm #1 conducted the "Second Five-Year Independent Consultant Inspection of the Ash Dikes" at DAN RIVER. The report clearly identified the 48-inch pipe as part CMP/part RCP and the 36-inch pipe as RCP. Employees of DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS/Duke Power Company accompanied the consultant during field inspections.

52. The 1986 report repeated the recommendation noted in 1981:

> The monitoring program appears adequate, except it would be desirable to quantitatively (rather than qualitatively) monitor the inflow and outflow at the 52/36-inch diameter culvert, as recommended in the 1981 inspection report, to check for joint leakage. It would also be desirable to do quantitative monitoring of inflow and outflow of the 48-inch diameter culvert that also passes beneath the ash basin; part of this culvert is constructed of corrugated metal pipe which would be expected to have less longevity of satisfactory service than the reinforced concrete pipes.
>
> . . .
>
> It is recommended that quantitative monitoring of inflow and outflow be done at the culverts which pass under the ash basin to check for potential leakage. It is recommended that this monitoring be done at 6-month intervals. If there is a significant difference between inflow and outflow, or whenever there is some cause to suspect leakage, the inside of the culverts should be inspected for leakage.

53. In the 1986 Annual Inspection report, engineers for DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS/Duke Power Company asked the DAN RIVER personnel to perform the following tasks:

> Quantitatively monitor the inflow and outflow at the two culverts that pass under the ash basin. Instructions are provided on the attached form and tables. Monitoring should begin within thirty days after the installation of V-notched weirs at the inlets and continue at six-month intervals. Random tests at various depths of flow should be made using a bucket and stop watch to verify flow rates given in the attached tables before beginning the monitoring schedule. Results of these tests should be transmitted to Design Engineering.

54. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS did not install V-notched weirs at the inlets. Flow monitoring, while apparently performed between 1991 and 1998, was not reported on the requested forms.

55. In 1991, Engineering Firm #2 performed the Third Five-Year Independent Consultant Inspection of the ash basins at DAN RIVER. The report noted that the two stormwater pipes passed under the Primary Ash Basin, but incorrectly identified the entire length of the 48-inch pipe as RCP. During the review process and prior to submission to the North Carolina Utilities Commission, engineers for DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS/Duke Power Company did not correct the error. This erroneous description of the 48-inch stormwater pipe was repeated in the 1998, 2001 and 2007 Five-Year Independent Consultant Inspection reports produced by Engineering Firms #1 and #3 and not corrected by DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS/Duke Power Company.

56. The 1991 report repeated the prior monitoring recommendations:

> As was previously recommended, the inflow and outflow of the drainage pipes extending under the ash basins should be monitored for the quantity flowing in versus that flowing out and the turbidity of the discharge. If a disparity becomes evident or if there is evidence of turbidity, the pipes should be checked for leaks.

57. The 1998 Fourth Independent Consultant Inspection report prepared by Engineering Firm #1 made the following recommendation for monitoring of the stormwater pipes:

> The outflow of the drainage pipes extending under the primary ash basins to the river should be monitored for turbidity of the discharge, which would be indicative of soil entrance into the pipes through leaks under the basin. The appearance of turbidity would make it advisable to perform a TV camera inspection of the pipe to help determine if the leak or leaks are a threat.

58. The recommendation in the 1998 report was repeated in identical language in the 2001 and 2007 Five-Year Inspection reports prepared by Engineering Firm #1 and #3, respectively.

59. In the 2007 Sixth Five-Year Independent Consultant Inspection report, Engineering Firm #3 noted that DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS engineers had not performed annual inspections since 2001, and also had not performed monthly inspections in 2003. The firm expressed concern over the qualifications of the DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS employees assigned to perform monitoring. Engineering Firm #3 recommended "that Duke reinstitute more

clearly defined engineering responsibility for the receiving and plotting of data from the dikes at the individual stations."

60. After 2008, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS installed a metal platform over rip rap (large rocks) along the outer wall of the coal ash basin to better enable employees to access the river bank near the outfalls of the 48-inch and 36-inch stormwater pipes. However, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS employees were still unable to view the 36-inch stormwater pipe outfall.

61. A 2009 EPA Dam Safety Assessment, prepared for EPA by an engineering contractor, restated the recommendations of the Sixth Five-Year Independent Consultant Inspection report and recommended that DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS complete the implementation of those recommendations as described in the Sixth Five-Year Independent Consultant Inspection Report. Based on information received from DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, the EPA Dam Safety Assessment reported that "[v]isual monitoring of the outflow from the drainage pipes that go under the Primary Basin is performed on a monthly basis." EPA's contractor observed that during its field inspection in May 2009, the outflow from the 48-inch and 36-inch pipes was clear.

62. The last monthly inspection of the stormwater pipes occurred on January 31, 2014. The form created by DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS for recording observations during the monthly inspections did not provide any specific space for reporting

observations of the stormwater pipes and the DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS employee who performed the inspection did not independently record any observations of the pipes on the form for the January 31, 2014, inspection. According to the DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS employee who performed the January 31, 2014, she did not observe turbidity in the water flowing from the 48-inch stormwater pipe. She could not see the discharge from the 36-inch stormwater pipe due to the location of the outfall in relation to her observation point on the scaffolding.

63. Between 1999 and 2008, and again from January 2013 through January 31, 2014, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS employees did not perform any visual inspections of the 36-inch stormwater pipe.

64. Between 1999 and 2008, during the months from May to September, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS employees were generally not able to conduct visual inspections of the flow from the 48-inch pipe because it was too difficult to access the end of the pipe from land as the result of vegetative growth and the presence of snakes.

65. Each of the DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS employees responsible for monitoring the flow from the stormwater pipes from 1991 to December 2012 was aware that the 48-inch stormwater pipe was composed of corrugated metal.

ADDITIONAL DUKE ENERGY DOCUMENTATION THAT THE 48-INCH STORMWATER PIPE WAS CMP

66. On or about January 22, 2014, Engineering Firm #4 finished a draft document titled "Design Report - DRAFT Ash Basin Closure - Conceptual Design for Dan River Steam Station." Appendix 4 of the Report identifies the 48-inch stormwater pipe as "CMP," although that information was not separately stated in the body of the report. In preparing the report, Engineering Firm #4 engineers relied on documentation provided by DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES, including a 2008 schematic of the Primary Ash Basin that correctly identified the 48-inch stormwater pipe as CMP. Engineers with DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES' Central Engineering office worked with Engineering Firm #4 in the preparation of the conceptual design and reviewed the draft documents but did not notice the labeling of the 48-inch stormwater pipe in Appendix 4.

67. A 2009 schematic entitled "Rough Grading - Overall Grading Plan for Dan River Combined Cycle" provided to DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS by one of its contractors also identified the 48-inch stormwater pipe as CMP.

68. As of the date of the Dan River spill, record-keeping and information-sharing practices at DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES did not ensure that information such as the actual composition of the 48-inch pipe was

communicated from employees with knowledge to engineers and employees making budget decisions. Additionally, engineers in DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES, with responsibility for DAN RIVER, had not sufficiently reviewed the records available to them and, therefore, continued to operate under the erroneous belief that the 48-inch pipe was made entirely of RCP.

RECOMMENDATION FOR CAMERA INSPECTIONS BY DUKE ENERGY PROGRAM ENGINEERING

69. From at least 2011 through February 2014, DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES had a group of engineers assigned to support fossil impoundment and dam inspections. The group was known as "Program Engineering."

70. In May 2011, a Senior Program Engineer and a Program Engineer with responsibilities covering DAN RIVER, recommended that the budget for DAN RIVER include camera inspections of the pipes within the Primary and Secondary Ash Basins. The estimated total cost for the camera inspection of four pipes, including the 48-inch stormwater pipe, within the Primary and Secondary Coal Ash Basins was $20,000.

71. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS did not provide funding for the camera inspection.

72. Upon learning that the camera inspection was not funded, the DAN RIVER Station Manager called the Vice-President

of Transitional Plants and Merger Integration, who was in charge of approving the budget at DAN RIVER and other facilities. The Station Manager told the Vice-President that DAN RIVER needed the camera inspections, that the station did not know the conditions of the pipes, and that if one of the pipes failed, there would be environmental harm. The request was still denied.

73. In May 2012, the Senior Program Engineer and the Program Engineer again recommended that the budget for DAN RIVER include camera inspections of the 48-inch and 36-inch stormwater pipes underneath the Primary Ash Basin, along with two additional pipes within the Primary and Secondary Ash Basins. The estimated total costs for the camera inspection was $20,000. The reason noted on the budget request form was "internal recommendation due to age of piping system."

74. By e-mail dated May 30, 2012, the Senior Program Engineer indicated his intention to eliminate the camera survey budget line item for stormwater pipes at DAN RIVER in light of the anticipated closure of the basins.

75. In response to the Senior Program Engineer's May 30, 2012, email, the DAN RIVER Equipment Owner, employed by DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES and responsible for monitoring the Primary Ash Basin wrote, in part:

> I would think with the basin closing you would want to do the camera survey. I don't think the drains have ever been checked and since they go under the basin I would like to ensure that we are eliminating any risk before closing the basins.

76. In response to the Senior Program Engineer's May 30, 2012, email, another DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES employee advised:

> I don't know if this changes your opinion, but [it] isn't likely that the ash basin will close in 2013. We have to submit a plan to the state at least one year prior to closure and we haven't even begun to prepare that.

77. On a date unknown but sometime between May 2012 and July 2012, at an in-person meeting, a DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES Program Engineer asked the Vice-President of Transitional Plants and Merger Integration whether camera inspections of the stormwater pipes would be funded. The Vice-President said no.

78. In June 2012, preliminary engineering plans for closing the DAN RIVER coal ash basins called for the removal of both the 48-inch and 36-inch pipes. However, between 2012 and 2014, there was no set date for closing and no formal closure plan had been submitted to DENR. In December 2012, the DAN RIVER ash basin closure was not projected to be completed until 2016.

79. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS did not provide funding for the camera inspections of the stormwater pipes and no camera

inspections were performed prior to February 2, 2014. If a camera inspection had been performed as requested, the interior corrosion of the elbow joint in the 48-inch pipe would likely have been visible.

80. From at least January 1, 2012, through February 2, 2014, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES failed to take reasonable steps to minimize or prevent discharge of coal ash to the Dan River that would adversely affect the environment and failed to properly operate and maintain the DAN RIVER coal ash basins and the related stormwater pipes located beneath the Primary Coal Ash Basin, thus, negligently violating the DAN RIVER NPDES permit.

FEBRUARY 2014 DISCHARGES INTO THE DAN RIVER

81. On February 2, 2014, a five-foot long elbow joint within the sixty-year-old corrugated metal section of the 48-inch pipe under the Primary Ash Basin at DAN RIVER failed, resulting in the release of coal ash wastewater and coal ash into the Dan River.

82. Later inspection of the elbow joint, after its retrieval from the Dan River, revealed extensive corrosion of the metal of the elbow joint initiating at the bottom center of the elbow. The parties disagree about some of the factors that contributed to the extensive corrosion. Nevertheless, the age of the pipe was at or beyond the reasonably expected serviceable

life for CMP under similar conditions. Ultimately, the combination of the corrosion and the weight of the coal ash basin over the elbow joint caused it to buckle, fail, and be pushed through the end of the 48-inch stormwater pipe into the Dan River.

83. Between approximately 1:30 p.m. and approximately 2:00 p.m. on February 2, 2014, a security guard at DAN RIVER noticed that the level of the wastewater in the Primary Ash Basin had dropped significantly.

84. The security guard immediately notified DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS employees in the control room for the adjacent natural gas-powered combined cycle plant. The DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS Shift Supervisor on duty went to the Primary Ash Basin and observed a large sinkhole. The Shift Supervisor saw only residual water and mud left in the basin. The Shift Supervisor alerted other DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES employees in order to begin response efforts.

85. After the initial discovery of the sinkhole in the Primary Ash Basin on February 2, 2014, an employee who responded to the site circulated photographs of the Primary Ash Basin to other DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES employees via e-mail at approximately 3:49 p.m.

86. Photographs attached to the 3:49 p.m. e-mail reflected the status of the basin. **(See Appendix, Photographs 1 - 4).**

87. From on or about February 2, 2014, through February 8, 2014, the unpermitted discharge of approximately 27 million gallons of coal ash wastewater and between 30,000 and 39,000 tons of coal ash into the Dan River occurred through the 48-inch pipe from the Primary Coal Ash Basin.

88. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, coal ash from the release traveled more than 62 miles down the Dan River, from the Middle District of North Carolina, through the Western District of Virginia, and into the John H. Kerr Reservoir in the Eastern District of North Carolina and Eastern District of Virginia.

89. On or about February 8, 2014, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS sealed the outfall of the 48-inch pipe, halting the discharge of coal ash wastewater and coal ash into the Dan River.

DISCHARGES FROM THE 36-INCH STORMWATER PIPE

90. On February 6, 2014, an interior video inspection of the 36-inch stormwater pipe revealed: (1) infiltration of wastewater occurring through a number of joints; (2) water jets from pressurized infiltration at three joints; (3) separation in one joint near the outfall point; (4) cracks running lengthwise through several pipe segments; and (5) sections of ponding water indicating irregular vertical alignment.

91. Analysis of water samples from the 36-inch pipe revealed that the line was releasing wastewater that contained

elevated levels of arsenic. On February 14, 2014, the arsenic concentration in the effluent at the outfall of the 36-inch pipe was 140 ug/L. On February 17, 2014, the arsenic concentration in the effluent at the same point was 180 ug/L. The North Carolina water quality standard for the protection of human health for arsenic is 10 ug/L and the water quality standard for the protection of freshwater aquatic life is 50 ug/L.

92. Discharge of contaminated wastewater continued from the 36-inch pipe between February 6, 2014, and February 21, 2014. The nature of the wastewater infiltration into the 36-inch stormwater pipe and DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS employees' visual and auditory confirmation of flow from the 36-inch pipe indicates that discharge from the 36-inch pipe began a significant period of time before February 6, 2014. The discharge began at least as early as January 1, 2012, continued until February 21, 2014, and was not authorized by a NPDES permit.

93. On February 21, 2014, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS sealed the 36-inch stormwater pipe.

RESPONSE COSTS FOR DAN RIVER RELEASE

94. Thus far, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS and federal, state, and local governments have spent over $19 million responding to the spill.

95. Drinking water intakes in the Dan River watershed, including those for the Cities of Danville, Virginia Beach, and Chesapeake and for the Halifax County Service Authority in Virginia were temporarily closed and were required to undertake additional monitoring for contamination. Monitoring results indicated that the water treatment plants along the Dan River were able to adequately treat and remove the coal ash and related contaminants from the spill.

96. The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services issued an advisory against consuming fish from or recreational contact with the Dan River from the point of the spill to the North Carolina - Virginia border from February 12, 2014, to July 22, 2014.

97. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS has reimbursed many entities for their expenditures in the aftermath of the spill. Nonetheless, at least two localities and one federal agency have not yet been fully reimbursed. Those entities and their expenditures are: (1) Virginia Beach, $63,309.45; (2) Chesapeake, Virginia, $125,069.75; and (3) the United States Army Corps of Engineers, $31,491.11.

CAPE FEAR STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT

98. DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS (formerly "Progress Energy Carolinas") owns the Cape Fear Steam Electric Plant ("CAPE

FEAR"), located adjacent to the Cape Fear River, just south of the confluence of the Haw and Deep Rivers and approximately two miles southeast of Moncure, North Carolina.

99. CAPE FEAR has a total of five coal ash basins. Three of the basins, constructed in 1956, 1963, and 1970 have been inactive for many years. Two of the basins, constructed in 1978 and 1985 continued to receive coal ash slurry and other forms of wastewater through at least November 2011.

100. The 1978 ash basin had a storage capacity of 880 acre-feet (approximately 286,749,258 gallons), a surface area of 43 acres, and a maximum structural height of 27 feet. The 1978 ash basin included a "riser," also known as a "stand pipe," used under normal operation to allow the passive and permitted discharge of wastewater treated by settlement from the basin. The riser was constructed of vertically stacked 18-inch diameter concrete pipe sections.

101. The 1985 ash basin had a storage capacity of 1764 acre-feet (approximately 574,801,921 gallons), a surface area of 65 acres, and a maximum structural height of 28 feet. The 1985 ash basin included a riser constructed of vertically stacked 48-inch diameter concrete pipe sections.

102. In a 2009 EPA Dam Safety Assessment, both the 1978 and 1985 coal ash basins at CAPE FEAR were classified as having "significant hazard potential," as previously defined.

103. By December 2011, DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS/Progress Energy Carolinas ceased electric power generation at CAPE FEAR. As a result of the cessation of operation, coal ash slurry was no longer received by the 1978 or 1985 coal ash basin, although each basin continued to receive rainwater or stormwater.

INSPECTIONS OF CAPE FEAR ASH BASINS, MONITORING RECOMMENDATIONS, AND DETECTION OF LEAKING RISERS

104. DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS/Progress Energy Carolinas engaged outside firms to perform annual and five-year inspections of the coal ash basins at CAPE FEAR, as required by state law.

105. On or about May 1, 2008, Engineering Firm #3, hired by DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS/Progress Energy Carolinas, conducted an annual inspection of the CAPE FEAR coal ash basins and generated a report of its observations, conclusions, and recommendations. The report was submitted to DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS/Progress Energy Carolinas and reviewed by the plant manager and environmental coordinator for CAPE FEAR.

106. The 2008 annual inspection report described the condition of the risers in the 1978 and 1985 coal ash basins as "marginal" and estimated that the risers were "likely to develop problems" in two to five years from the date of the report. The report further recommended that DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS/Progress Energy Carolinas perform its own inspections of the risers in

the 1978 and 1985 ash basins by boat, in order to better assess the condition of the risers.

107. The recommendation to inspect the risers using a boat was repeated in annual reports produced by engineering firms and submitted to DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS/Progress Energy Carolinas in 2009 and 2010, and to DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS in 2012 and 2013.

108. At no time from May 1, 2008, until March 2014 did DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS/Progress Energy Carolinas perform inspections of the risers in the 1978 or 1985 ash basins by boat.

109. At some time during the summer of 2011, but on a date unknown, the DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS/Progress Energy Carolinas Environmental Coordinator and the NPDES Subject Matter Expert responsible for CAPE FEAR visited the site. During their visit, they became aware that the risers in the 1978 and 1985 coal ash basins were leaking. During the fall of 2011, but on a date unknown, they informed DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS/Progress Energy Carolinas management that repairs were needed on the risers. No additional inspection or monitoring of the risers was undertaken by DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS/Progress Energy Carolinas as a result of their observations prior to March 2014.

110. The 2012 Five-Year Independent Consultant Report, produced on January 26, 2012, by Engineering Firm #4, noted that the skimmer located at the top of the riser in the 1978 ash basin was corroded and tilted. The skimmer was designed to

prevent debris from being discharged from the basin or clogging the riser.

111. Photographs included with the 2012 Five-Year Independent Consultant Report show the skimmer on the riser in the 1978 coal ash basin sitting askew. **(See Appendix, Photographs 5 & 6).**

112. Photographs included with the 2012 Five-Year Independent Consultant Report show the skimmer on the riser in the 1985 coal ash basin. **(See Appendix, Photograph 7).**

113. Annual inspection reports for 2012 and 2013 also reported that the riser in the 1978 ash basin was damaged, deteriorated, and tilted. The annual reports recommended that DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS/Progress Energy Carolinas replace or repair the skimmer on the riser in the 1978 ash basin.

114. At no time from January 26, 2012, through March 2014 did DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS/Progress Energy Carolinas repair or replace the skimmer on the riser in the 1978 coal ash basin.

115. The annual inspection report produced on or about June 24, 2013, by Engineering Firm #4 and submitted to DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS noted that a "trickle of flow" was observed at the outfalls leading from the risers in the 1978 and 1985 ash basins which the report concluded indicated possible leakage.

DEWATERING OF THE ASH BASINS AND REPAIR OF RISERS

116. During the summer of 2013, on a date unknown, an employee of DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES contacted a contractor specializing in diving and underwater pipe repair and mentioned the possible need for riser repair at CAPE FEAR. The contractor was not engaged at that time and no schedule for the potential work was discussed.

117. Also during the summer of 2013, DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES were engaged in planning for the closure of the coal ash basins at CAPE FEAR. On or about July 11, 2013, consulting engineers assisting DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES in planning for ash basin closure produced and provided to DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES a "site investigation plan" that included plans for locating, inspecting, and determining the composition of risers and discharge pipes for each ash basin.

118. As part of the ongoing planning for ash basin closure, DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES sought to eliminate the need for NPDES permits for CAPE FEAR, in keeping with its "Ash Basin Closure Strategy." This strategy would reduce continuing operation and maintenance costs at the plant while ash basin closure was pending. DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES knew that in order to eliminate

the NPDES permits, the coal ash basins would have to be in a "no flow" state. To reach that state, DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS needed to eliminate the riser leaks at the 1978 and 1985 coal ash basins as well as lower the level of the contents of the ash basins to prevent water from overtopping the risers during a 25-year rain event. These requirements were discussed by a number of DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES employees during the summer of 2013, including the DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES NPDES Subject Matter Expert and the DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES Director of Plant Demolition and Retirement.

119. Also as part of the ongoing planning for ash basin closure at CAPE FEAR, DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES recognized that dewatering the ash basins was a necessary and time-consuming part of the process of closing an ash basin. DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES further believed that dewatering the coal ash basins would "lessen hydrostatic pressure" and "over a relatively brief time reduce and/or eliminate seepage." At the time, seepage was the subject of threatened citizen law suits, a series of state-filed civil complaints, and significant public concern.

120. DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES also believed that dewatering the 1978 and 1985 coal ash basins prior to repairing the risers would provide a safer environment

for contractors performing repair work. DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES employees knew that the leaks in the risers were likely being caused by cracks or failures in the grout between the concrete pipe sections that were underwater. The employees did not know how far underwater the leaks or grout failures were or how many sections of the pipe would need repair. Because the risers were filled with air but surrounded by water, underwater repair of the risers could be hazardous to the divers due to a phenomenon known as "differential pressure." DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES employees believed that removing the standing water from the 1978 and 1985 basins to at or below the level of the leaking portions of the risers would eliminate the risk from differential pressure.

121. Beginning on or about August 16, 2013, and continuing through on or about September 30, 2013, employees and contractors for DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES began developing a work plan for pumping water from the 1985 ash basin at CAPE FEAR.

122. On or about September 30, 2013, DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS employees began pumping water from the 1985 ash basin at CAPE FEAR, using a Godwin pump and hoses.

123. On or about October 2, 2013, two days after pumping began at the 1985 ash basin, a DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES

engineer assigned to the plant retirement program emailed a representative of a contracting company specializing in underwater pipe repair. In the email, the engineer indicated that there were "several potential opportunities at [the] Cape Fear plant that we would like you to look at." The engineer went on to describe one of the opportunities as:

> Ash pond riser repairs. Two ponds' risers leak. There is a slow trickle out of the discharge of the concrete riser pipes at two ash ponds. We may elect to stop the leak. Could you provide a ballpark for providing the investigation and repair services? Could you also describe what the process would be?

124. On or about October 22, 2013, the underwater pipe repair contractor submitted to DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES a project estimate titled "Abandonment of Intakes and Leak Sealing" that included four tasks, including "Ash Pond Riser Repairs."

125. On or about January 13, 2014, DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS began dewatering operations at the 1978 coal ash basin at CAPE FEAR, using a Godwin pump and hoses similar to those used at the 1985 coal ash basin, as well as the same work plan.

126. On or about January 24, 2014, DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS signed a contract, through DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES, acting as its agent, with the underwater pipe repair contractor for various projects at CAPE FEAR relating to plant decommissioning and coal ash basin closure, as addressed in the October 22,

2014, project estimate. One of the projects was repair work on the risers in the 1978 and 1985 coal ash basins. The contract specified that work under the contract would "start on or about January 27, 2014 and shall be completed no later than December 31, 2014." The contract did not identify specifically when the work would begin on the risers.

127. On or about March 11, 2014, DENR officials from both the DWR and the Division of Mineral and Land Resources visited CAPE FEAR to perform an inspection. The DENR officials were accompanied by several DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES employees during their inspection. DENR observed the Godwin pumps at the 1985 and 1978 ash basins along with obvious signs of a significant drop in the water level in the coal ash basins and disturbances in the surface of the coal ash in the basins. **(See Appendix, Photographs 8 - 10).**

128. At the conclusion of the DENR inspection on March 11, 2014, a dispute arose between DENR officials and DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES employees over whether DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS had been authorized by DENR-DWR to discharge water from the coal ash basins using Godwin pumps.

129. On or about March 19 and 20, 2014, an employee of the underwater pipe repair contractor performed video inspections of the risers in the 1978 and 1985 coal ash basins. The contractor observed that in the discharge pipe leading from the riser in

the 1985 coal ash basin, the visibility in one area was "next to nothing." The visibility was negatively impacted by turbidity and debris in the pipe. The contractor observed a "slow trickle" of water intruding into the riser in the 1978 coal ash basin. At the time of the camera inspections, the water level in both coal ash basins had already been lowered below the uppermost joints of the risers and, thus, below the level of some of the leaks.

130. No other camera inspections were conducted of the risers between 2008 and March 19, 2014.

131. On or about March 19 and 20, 2014, employees and agents of the underwater pipe repair contractor replaced and resealed the grout between the concrete pipe sections of the risers in the 1978 and 1985 coal ash basins. **(See Appendix, Photographs 11 through 14).**

132. Between at least January 1, 2012, and January 24, 2014, DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES failed to properly maintain the risers in the 1978 and 1985 coal ash basins at CAPE FEAR in violation of the applicable NPDES permit.

HISTORICAL SEEPS AND DISCHARGES FROM COAL ASH BASINS

133. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS' and DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS's coal ash basins are comprised of earthen dams. Over time, "seeps" developed in the dam walls. "Seeps" occur when water, often

carrying dissolved chemical constituents, moves through porous soil and emerges at the surface. Seeps are common in earthen dams. The Defendants have identified nearly 200 distinct seeps at the Defendants' coal ash basins throughout North Carolina in permit modification applications filed in 2014. Not all seeps necessarily reach waters of the United States. However, some of the discharge from seeps is collected and moved through engineered drains or channels to waters of the United States. Other seeps are simply allowed to flow across land surfaces to waters of the United States. Each of the facilities listed in the table at paragraph 12 had seeps of some form.

134. Water from seeps may transport pollutants. Wastewater sampled from various seep locations at DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS and DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS coal ash basins in 2014 was found to contain constituents including aluminum, arsenic, barium, boron, chloride, chromium, copper, fluoride, lead, manganese, nickel, selenium, thallium, and zinc, and was additionally found to be acidic.

135. On June 7, 2010, EPA issued interim guidance to assist NPDES permitting authorities with establishing appropriate permit requirements for wastewater discharges from coal ash basins at power plants. In the guidance, EPA advised with respect to point source discharges of seepage:

> If the seepage is directly discharged to waters of the United States, it is likely discharged via a discrete conveyance and thus is a point source discharge. Seepage discharges are expected to be relatively minor in volume compared to other discharges at the facility and could be inadvertently overlooked by permitting authorities. Although little data are available, seepage consists of [coal combustion residuals] including fly ash and bottom ash and fly ash transport water and [flue-gas desulfurization] wastewater. If seepage is discharged directly via a point source to a water of the U.S., the discharge must be addressed under the NPDES permit for the facility.

136. Since at least 2010, seepage from DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS' and DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS's coal ash basins at certain of their 14 coal-fired power plants in North Carolina entered waters of the United States through discrete conveyances.

137. Wetlands may also suffer impacts from the operation of coal-fired plants. Coal ash basins were historically sited near rivers and are, therefore, often located in or near riparian wetlands and some coal ash basins have hydrologic connections to wetlands via groundwater or seeps.

138. Since 2010, as part of the NPDES permitting process in North Carolina, coal-fired plants are required to monitor groundwater to assure natural resources are protected in accordance with federal and state water quality standards. Monitoring of groundwater at coal ash basins owned by DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS and DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS has shown exceedances of groundwater water quality standards for pollutants under and near the basins including arsenic, boron, cadmium, chromium,

iron, manganese, nickel, nitrate, selenium, sulfate, thallium, and total dissolved solids.

139. At various times between 2010 and 2014 the Defendants included general references to seeps in correspondence and permit applications with DENR and disclosed more detailed information concerning certain seeps, including engineered seeps (i.e., man-made channels). The Defendants did not begin gathering and providing detailed, specific, and comprehensive data concerning seeps, and particularly seeps discharging to waters of the United States, at each of the North Carolina coal ash basins to DENR until after the DAN RIVER spill in 2014.

140. After the coal ash spill at DAN RIVER in 2014, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS and DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS, with the assistance of DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES, filed NPDES permit renewal and/or modification applications seeking authorization for certain seeps that discharged, via a point source, directly to a water of the United States. These applications are currently pending as DENR considers the impacts of the seeps and discharges on the receiving waters of the United States.

H.F. LEE STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT

141. DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS owns the H. F. Lee Steam Electric Plant ("LEE"), which is located in Goldsboro, North Carolina. LEE (formerly known as the "Goldsboro Plant") began operation

shortly after World War II and added additional coal-fired combustion units in 1952 and 1962. The plant retired the coal-fired units in September of 2012.

142. LEE used several coal ash basins in the past. Only one of the remaining coal ash basins still contains water and ash sluiced from LEE (the "active coal ash basin"). The active ash basin sits on the north side of the Neuse River. **(See Appendix, Photograph 15).**

143. The active coal ash basin is triangle-shaped and includes a primary basin and a small secondary settling basin. The treatment system is designed so that water discharges from the primary basin into the secondary basin and from the secondary basin into the Neuse River.

144. The NPDES permit No. NC0003417 for LEE, effective November 1, 2009, authorized two discharges into the Neuse River – one from the active coal ash basin ("Outfall 001") and one from the cooling water pond ("Outfall 002"). A 2010 modification of the 2009 permit also authorized a third outfall ("Outfall 003") from a combined cycle generation facility. Water does not currently discharge from the active coal ash basin into the Neuse River via Outfall 001.

145. Beginning at a time unknown but no later than October 2010, DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS/Progress Energy Carolinas identified a seep on the eastern embankment of the active coal ash basin.

This seep was adjacent to an area of seepage that was identified and repaired in 2009 and 2010. This seep in 2010 collected and flowed to a "flowing ditch" outside of the active coal ash basin. This seep was repaired in May of 2011.

146. Additional seeps on the eastern side of the active coal ash basin also flowed into the same drainage ditch as the seep identified in October 2010. The drainage ditch discharged into the Neuse River at latitude 35.379183, longitude -78.067533. The drainage ditch was not an authorized outfall under the NPDES permit. In 2014, DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS identified the GPS coordinates of four seeps on the eastern side of the coal ash basin as: latitude 35.380510, longitude -78.068532; latitude 35.382767, longitude -78.069655; latitude 35.386968, longitude -78.071942; and latitude 35.379492, longitude -78.067718.

147. On February 20, 2013, DENR personnel sampled water in three locations from the drainage ditch. This sampling occurred after DENR personnel from the Land Quality Section observed a seep near the southeast corner of the ash pond dike. The seep collected in the unpermitted discharge ditch and flowed into the Neuse River. Water quality analysis of samples from the drainage ditch showed exceedances of state water quality standards for chloride, arsenic, boron, barium, iron, and manganese. This discharge of wastewater into the Neuse River

from the drainage ditch at LEE was not authorized under the NPDES permit.

148. On March 11, 2014, DENR personnel again sampled wastewater from the drainage ditch referenced previously. The ditch showed exceedances for iron and manganese.

149. Unpermitted discharges, in violation of the applicable NPDES permit, occurred at LEE from at least October 1, 2010, through December 30, 2014.

RIVERBEND STEAM STATION

150. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS owns and operates the Riverbend Steam Station ("RIVERBEND"), located in Gaston County, North Carolina, approximately 10 miles from the city of Charlotte and immediately adjacent to Mountain Island Lake, on a bend in the Catawba River. Mountain Island Lake is the primary source of drinking water for residents of Gaston and Mecklenburg Counties.

151. RIVERBEND began commercial operation in 1929 and its combustion units were retired in April 2013, with plans to demolish it after 2016. It has two unlined coal ash basins along Mountain Island Lake, with dams reaching up to 80 feet in height. The RIVERBEND dams are designated in a 2009 EPA Dam Safety Assessment as "Significant Hazard Potential," as previously defined. RIVERBEND contains approximately 2,730,000 million tons of stored coal ash.

152. The RIVERBEND NPDES permit, No. NC0004961, was issued on March 3, 1976, and has been renewed subsequently, with the current NPDES Permit expiring on February 28, 2015. The RIVERBEND NPDES permit allows the facility to discharge wastewater to the Catawba River from three "permitted outfalls" in accordance with the effluent limitations and monitoring requirements regarding flow, suspended solids, oil and grease, fecal coliform, copper, iron, arsenic, selenium, mercury, phosphorus, nitrogen, pH, and chronic toxicity, as well as other conditions set forth therein. Wastewater from the coal ash basin was to be discharged, after treatment by settling, through one of the monitored and permitted outfalls.

153. On December 4 through December 6, 2012, DENR conducted inspections of RIVERBEND and discovered unpermitted discharges of wastewater from the coal ash basin into the Catawba River. Among the unpermitted discharges at RIVERBEND is a seep identified in a 2014 permit modification application as Seep 12, an engineered drain to discharge coal ash contaminated wastewater into the river. RIVERBEND Seep 12 is located at latitude 35.36796809, longitude -80.95935079. **(See Appendix, Photographs 16 through 18)**. At some time unknown, but prior to December 2012, one or more individuals at RIVERBEND created the unpermitted channel that allowed contaminated water from the coal ash basin to be discharged into the river.

154. The unpermitted seep resulted in documented unpermitted discharges from 2011 through 2013 containing elevated levels of arsenic, chromium, cobalt, boron, barium, nickel, strontium, sulfate, iron, manganese, and zinc into the Catawba River.

155. Unpermitted discharges, in violation of the applicable NPDES permit, occurred at RIVERBEND from at least November 8, 2012, through December 30, 2014.

ASHEVILLE STEAM ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT

156. DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS owns and operates the Asheville Steam Electric Generating Plant ("ASHEVILLE"), in Buncombe County, North Carolina.

157. ASHEVILLE is a coal-powered electricity-generating facility in the Western District of North Carolina. It has two unlined coal ash basins, one constructed in 1964 and the other constructed in 1982. The basins, each approximately 45 acres in size, hold a total of approximately 3,000,000 tons of coal ash waste. **(See Appendix, Photograph 19).** The basins were each characterized in the 2009 EPA Dam Safety Assessment as "High Hazard Potential," meaning that "failure or mis-operation results will probably cause loss of human life."

158. The ASHEVILLE NPDES permit, number NC0000396, was issued in 2005 and expired in 2010. Progress Energy Carolinas (now DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS) filed a timely permit renewal

application on June 11, 2010. DENR has not yet issued a new permit and ASHEVILLE continues to operate under the terms of the 2005 NPDES permit.

159. On May 13, 2011, DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS/Progress Energy Carolinas sought authority to relocate the settling basin and permitted discharge outfall at ASHEVILLE from its original location near the 1964 coal ash basin to a location approximately 3,000 feet away, latitude 35.47367 and longitude -82.504, in order to allow "stabilization work" on the 1964 ash pond impoundment.

160. On March 11, 2013, DENR staff inspected ASHEVILLE and identified seeps flowing from toe drains at the 1964 coal ash basins. The engineered seep from the 1964 coal ash basin has continued to discharge pollutants. This engineered seep is not authorized under the applicable NPDES permit. Engineered seeps from the 1964 coal ash basin are located at latitude 35.468319, longitude -82.549104 and latitude 35.466943, longitude -82.548502. These engineered seeps discharge through the toe drain to the French Broad River.

161. Unpermitted discharges, in violation of the applicable NPDES permit, occurred at ASHEVILLE from at least May 31, 2011, through December 30, 2014.

BROMIDE IMPACTS FROM FGD SYSTEMS

162. As described above, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS owns and operates Belews Creek Steam Station ("BELEWS") in Stokes County, North Carolina, and Cliffside Steam Station ("CLIFFSIDE") in Rutherford and Cleveland Counties, North Carolina.

163. As part of its efforts to comply with the Clean Air Act and North Carolina Clean Smokestacks Act, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS installed Flue Gas Desulfurization ("FGD") "scrubbers" to significantly reduce or eliminate certain air pollutants, such as sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide at several coal-fired facilities. FGD scrubbers isolate certain pollutants from coal combustion emissions into the air and ultimately divert those pollutants, including bromides, into a gypsum slurry that is eventually routed to the facility's coal ash basins. At times, portions of the slurry may be diverted for reuse in products such as wall board.

164. FGD installation was completed and the scrubbers at BELEWS became fully operational at the end of 2008.

165. When bromide comes into contact with chlorine-based water treatment systems, it can contribute to the formation of compounds known as trihalomethanes ("THMs"). There are no general federal or state water limits for the discharge of bromides to surface water. However, there are state and federal limits for total trihalomethanes ("total THMs") under the Safe

Drinking Water Act. If ingested in excess of the regulatory limits over many years, THMs may cause adverse health effects, including cancer.

DISCHARGE OF BROMIDES AT BELEWS

166. Beginning in 2008 or 2009, the City of Eden ("Eden"), downstream from BELEWS, noted an increase in total THMs in its drinking water.

167. Prior to the installation of the FGD scrubbers, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS reported to DENR in its BELEWS NPDES permit applications that bromide occurred in its waste stream at a level too low to detect. When BELEWS applied for a NPDES permit modification in 2009, it made no new disclosures concerning bromide levels because the modification did not relate to bromide and there were no federal or state limitations for bromide discharge.

168. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS tested for bromides, as well a number of other potential pollutants, at BELEWS in 2008-2009 to evaluate the effects of the FGD wastewater treatment system. Those test results showed that bromides were discharged from BELEWS into the Dan River. This did not violate the NDPES permit for the facility.

169. In consultation with an outside contractor, in January 2011, Eden determined that an increase in bromides contributed

to the increase in total THMs it had witnessed beginning in 2008-2009.

170. In early 2011, Eden tested the water entering its water treatment facility from the Dan River and performed water tests upstream to determine the source of the bromides.

171. On May 10, 2011, Eden notified DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS that it was having difficulty with increasing levels of total THMs in its treated drinking water and requested DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS' bromide sampling data from the outflow of BELEWS. An impending reduction in the threshold for total THMs (required by an EPA rule promulgated under the Safe Drinking Water Act) triggered Eden's particular interest in the pollutant, especially given that Eden was at the upper limit of the then-permissible total THM range.

172. As a result of the water testing, Eden identified the source of the increased bromides as BELEWS, which discharges into the Dan River. Eden shared this information and its test results with DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS on June 7, 2011.

173. Shortly thereafter, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES internally agreed that the increased bromides very likely came from BELEWS and, combined with a number of other factors, had likely caused the THM increase at Eden. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES

also agreed internally that the increased bromides were likely the result of the FGD scrubber system.

174. In mid-June 2011, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS contacted the Town of Madison ("Madison"), which also draws water from the Dan River and processes that water for drinking and which is closer to BELEWS than Eden. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS informed Madison of its findings and Madison asked to be part of the discussions with Eden about reducing bromide levels. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS and DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES employees met with Eden and Madison several times between June 2011 and April 2012 to discuss reducing total THMs in their drinking water.

175. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS informed DENR of the increase in bromide levels in its effluent when it filed its NPDES permit renewal application for BELEWS on August 29, 2011. In the application, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS listed bromide as a pollutant present in outfalls 001 (into Belews Lake) and 003 (into Dan River). The largest concentration of bromide was listed as 6.9 mg/L from Outfall 003, which translates to 6.9 parts per million (ppm) or 6907 parts per billion (ppb). This bromide result appears to have been taken from a sample of water collected in January 2011 and analyzed after Eden had brought the issue to DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS' attention.

176. At the time DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS filed its NPDES permit renewal application for BELEWS, none of the previous permits had placed any restrictions or limits on bromides.

177. In mid-October 2011, Eden informed DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS that Madison had violated its limit on total THMs. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS was also informed that Henry County, Virginia, (which purchases Eden's water) violated its total THM limit. Dan River Water (another purchaser of Eden's water) also violated its total THM limit.

178. On November 16, 2011, DENR's Winston-Salem Regional Office held a meeting with DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES, Eden, and Madison regarding the bromide issue. All participants agreed that the total THM problem was caused by bromides entering the Dan River from BELEWS. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS was not aware of the relationship between bromides and THMs until Eden brought the matter to DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS' attention in 2011.

179. Since the November 2011 meeting, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS has entered into written agreements with Eden and Madison to assist them with a portion of the costs of modifying and modernizing their water treatment systems.

DISCHARGE OF BROMIDES AT CLIFFSIDE

180. Beginning at about the time DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS responded to Eden's initial complaints regarding the bromide

discharge at BELEWS, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS conducted an initiative to monitor bromide discharge at other locations employing FGD scrubbers.

181. As a result of this initiative, in or about early August 2011, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS also internally identified the CLIFFSIDE facility in western North Carolina as one that could pose a potential THM problem in light of the relatively shallow river (the Broad River) into which CLIFFSIDE discharged and the presence of relatively close downstream facilities that drew drinking water from the Broad River.

182. The last CLIFFSIDE NPDES permit was issued in January 2011 and did not reference bromide.

183. DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS AND DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES informed neither downstream communities nor DENR regarding this discharge from CLIFFSIDE. As of the date of this joint factual statement, the parties are not aware of a community downstream from CLIFFSIDE that has reported elevated levels of total THMs due to an increase in bromide discharge from the facility, but acknowledge the possibility that one or more communities may have been affected.

184. In 2013, DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS installed a spray dry absorber for one of the two FGD scrubber units at the CLIFFSIDE facility which reduced the bromide discharge from CLIFFSIDE.

The other FGD scrubber unit at CLIFFSIDE operates only intermittently.

SUTTON FACILITY

185. DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS owns and operates the L.V. Sutton Steam Station ("SUTTON") in New Hanover County, North Carolina. SUTTON houses two coal ash basins, one constructed in 1971 and one constructed in 1984.

186. Located near SUTTON is the community of Flemington. Flemington's water supply has a history of water-quality problems. In 1978, an adjacent landfill, designated as a "Superfund" site, contaminated Flemington's drinking water and caused authorities to construct new wells.

187. Flemington's new wells are located near SUTTON's coal ash basins. They are located down-gradient from the SUTTON coal ash basins, meaning groundwater ultimately flows from the coal ash basins toward the Flemington wells.

188. DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS/Progress Energy Carolinas has monitored groundwater around SUTTON since 1990. Monitoring particularly focused on a boron plume emanating from the coal ash ponds.

189. From at least 2010 through 2013, the groundwater monitoring wells at SUTTON reported unnaturally elevated levels of some constituents, including manganese, boron, sulfate, and total dissolved solids.

190. Flemington's public utility also tested its water quality. Those tests showed exceedances of barium, manganese, sodium, and sulfate in 2013.

191. In June and July 2013, Flemington's public utility concluded that boron from SUTTON's ash ponds was entering its water supply. Tests of water from various wells at and near SUTTON from that period showed elevated levels of boron, iron, manganese, thallium, selenium, cadmium, and total dissolved solids.

192. In October 2013, DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS entered into an agreement with the Cape Fear Public Utility Authority to share costs for extending a municipal water line to the Flemington community.

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SO AGREED, THIS 20th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2015.

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Eastern District of North Carolina
North Carolina

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U.S. Attorney's Office - WDNC

SO AGREED, this the 20 day of February, 2015.

DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC.
Defendant

BY: _____
JULIA S. JANSON
Executive Vice-President,
Chief Legal Officer, and
Corporate Secretary

Authorized Designated Official for
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC

_____
JAMES P. COONEY, III
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice LLP
Counsel for the Defendant

SO AGREED, this the 20 day of February, 2015.

DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS, INC.
Defendant

BY: _____
JULIA S. JANSON
Executive Vice-President,
Chief Legal Officer, and
Corporate Secretary

Authorized Designated Official for
Duke Energy Progress, Inc.

_____
JAMES P. COONEY, III
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice LLP
Counsel for the Defendant

SO AGREED, this the 20 day of February, 2015.

DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES, INC.
Defendant

BY: _____
JULIA S. JANSON
President and Chief Legal Officer

Authorized Designated Official for
Duke Energy Business Services, LLC

_____
JAMES P. COONEY, III
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice LLP
Counsel for the Defendant

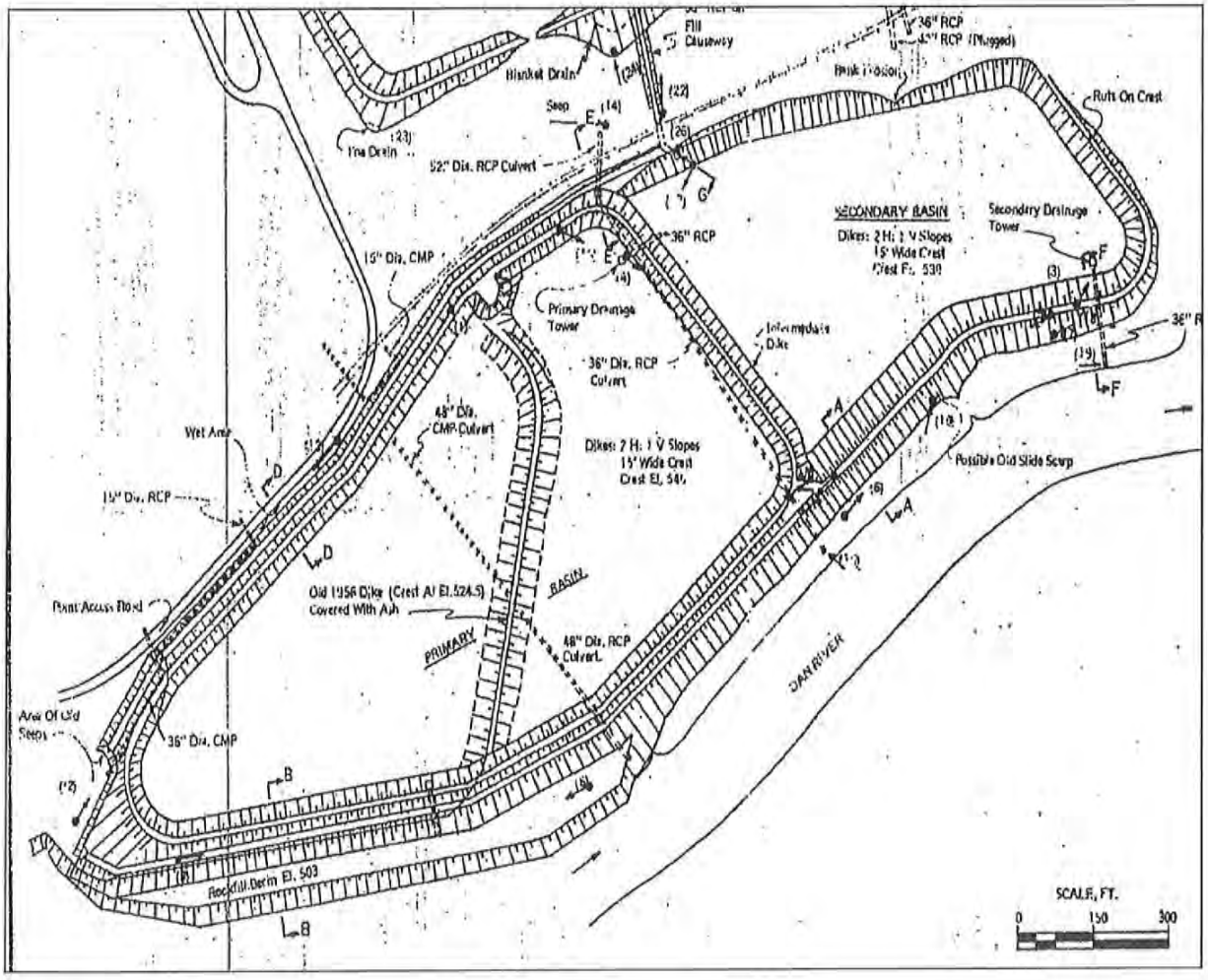
United States v. Duke Energy Business Services LLC, et al.

APPENDIX

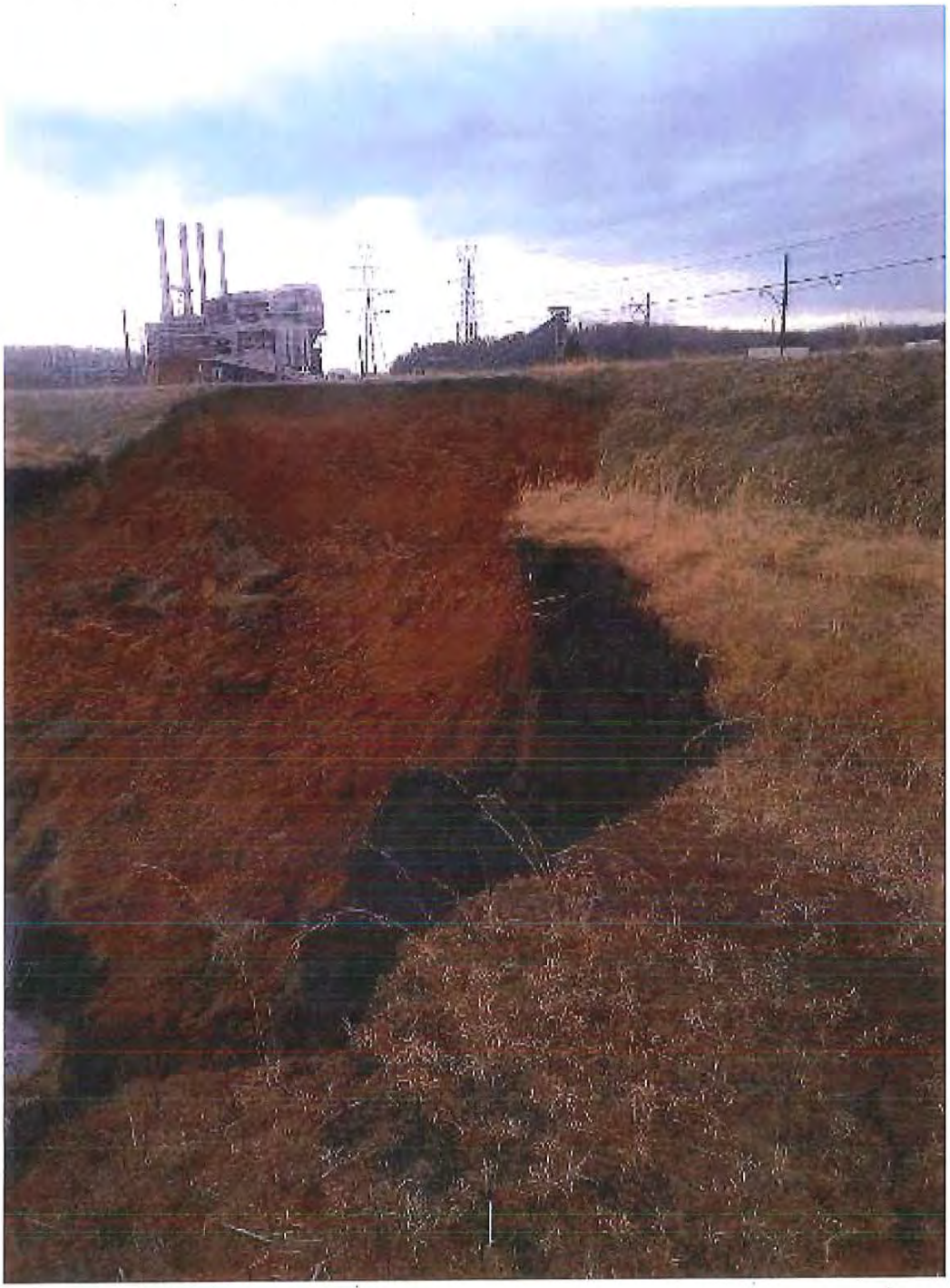
TO JOINT FACTUAL STATEMENT

February 20, 2015

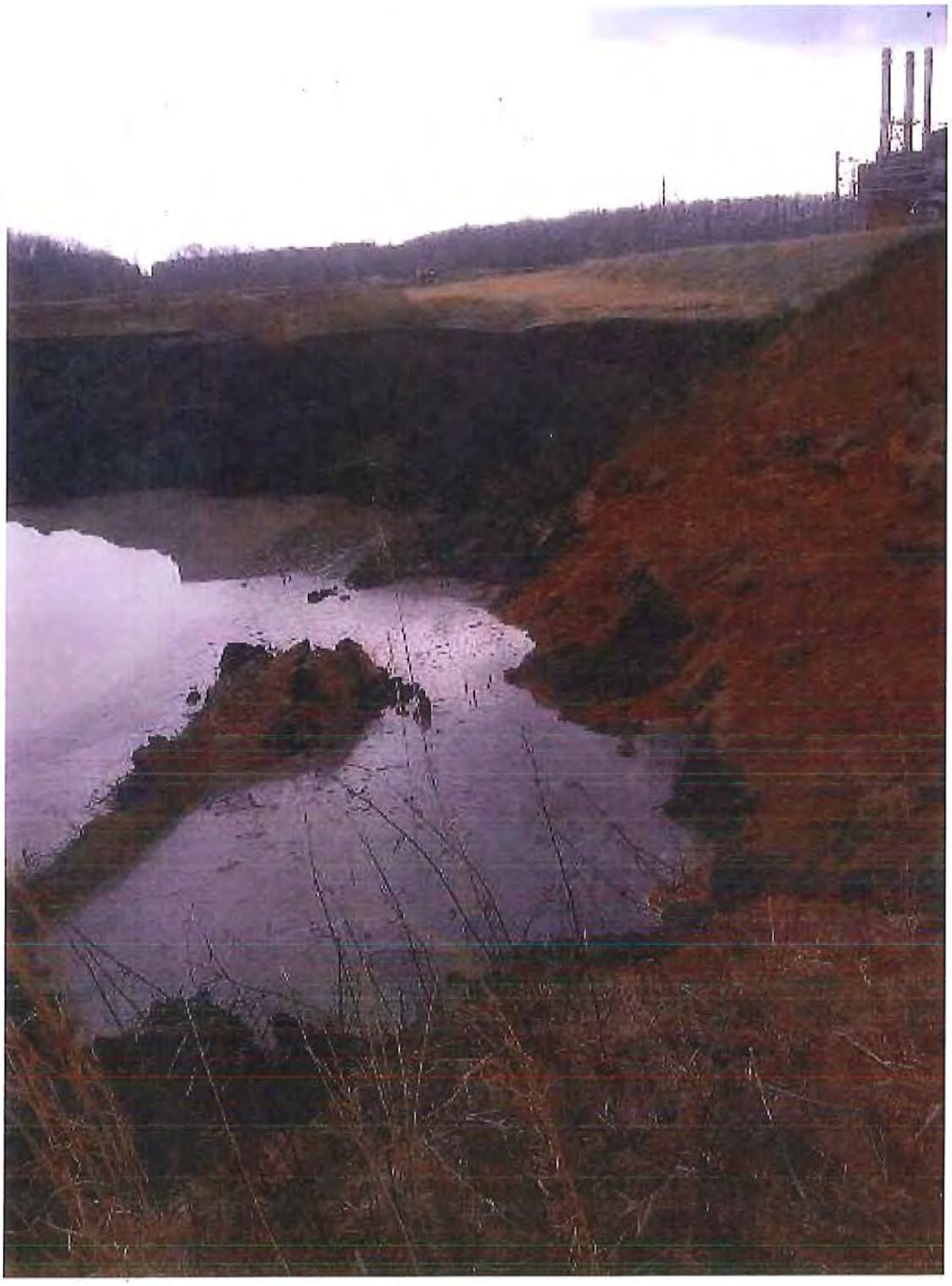
Diagram 1. Engineering Firm #1, Report of Safety Inspection – Duke Power Dan River Steam Station Ash Dikes, at Fig. 4 (1981).



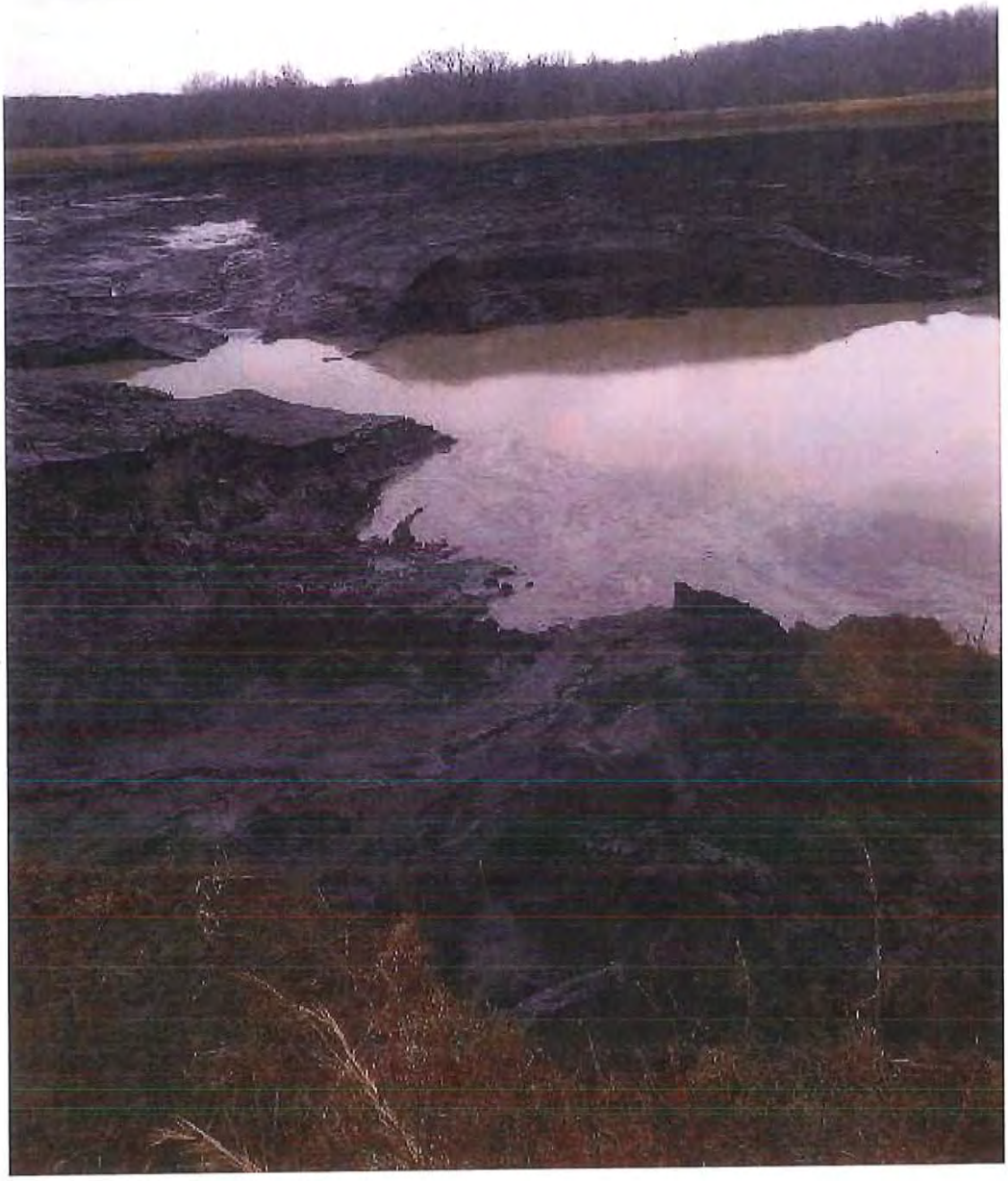
Photograph 1. Photograph of DAN RIVER coal ash basin during spill, attached to 2/2/2014, 3:49 p.m. e-mail from Duke Energy Business Services employee.



Photograph 2. Photograph of DAN RIVER coal ash basin during spill, attached to 2/2/2014, 3:49 p.m. e-mail from Duke Energy Business Services employee.



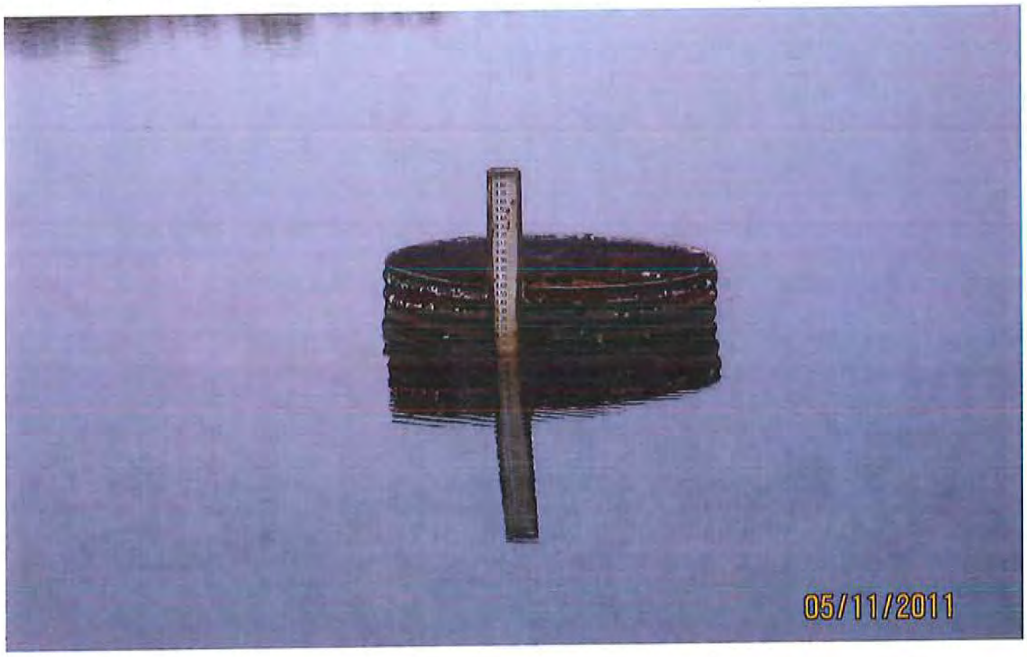
Photograph 3. Photograph of DAN RIVER coal ash basin during spill, attached to 2/2/2014, 3:49 p.m. e-mail from Duke Energy Business Services employee.



Photograph 4. Photograph of DAN RIVER coal ash basin during spill, attached to 2/2/2014, 3:49 p.m. e-mail from Duke Energy Business Services employee.

Photograph 5. Riser in CAPE FEAR 1978 coal ash basin from 2012 Five Year Independent Consultant Report.

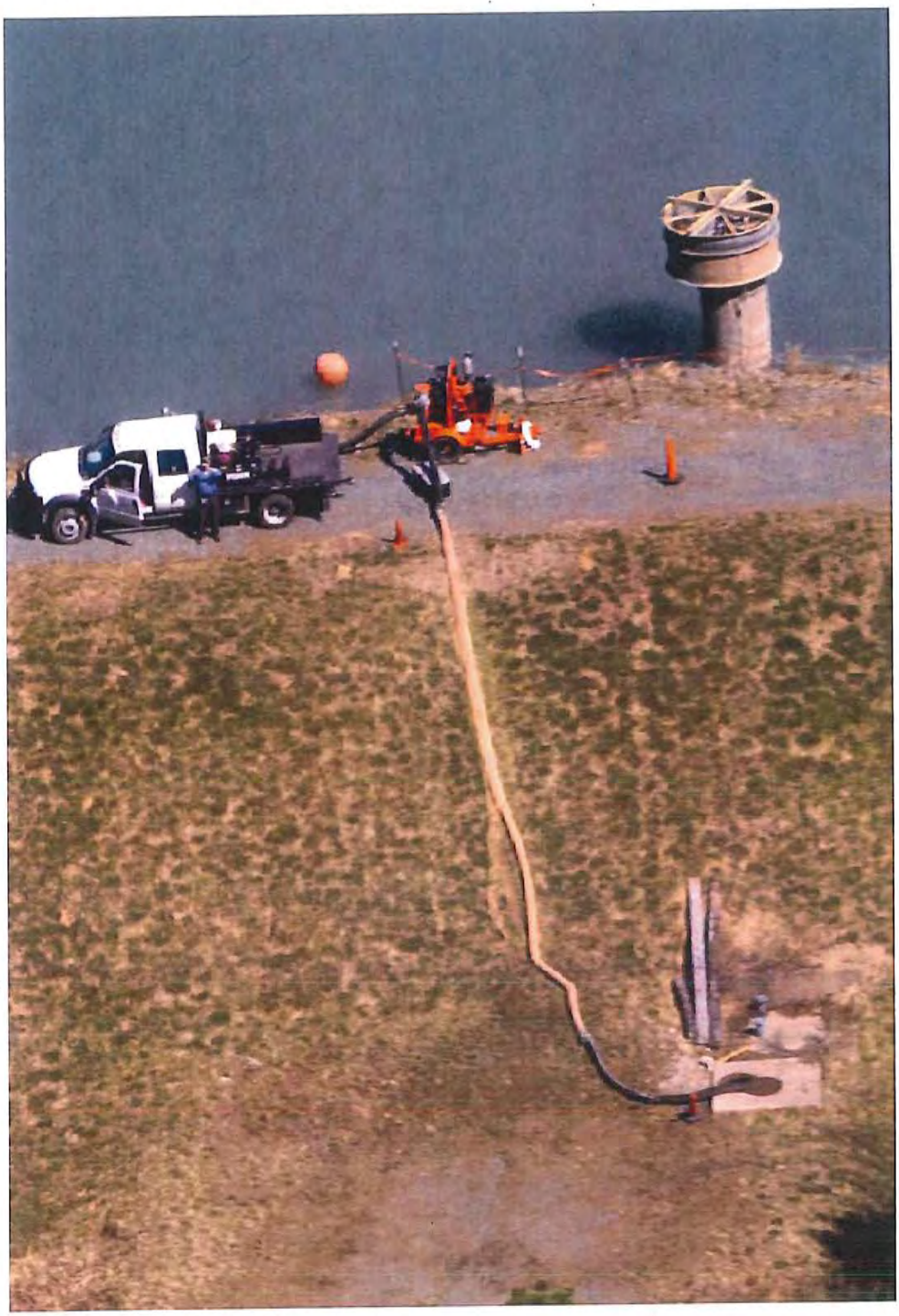
Photograph 6. Riser in CAPE FEAR 1978 coal ash basin from 2012 Five Year Independent Consultant Report.



Photograph 7. Riser in CAPE FEAR 1985 coal ash basin from 2012 Five Year Independent Consultant Report.

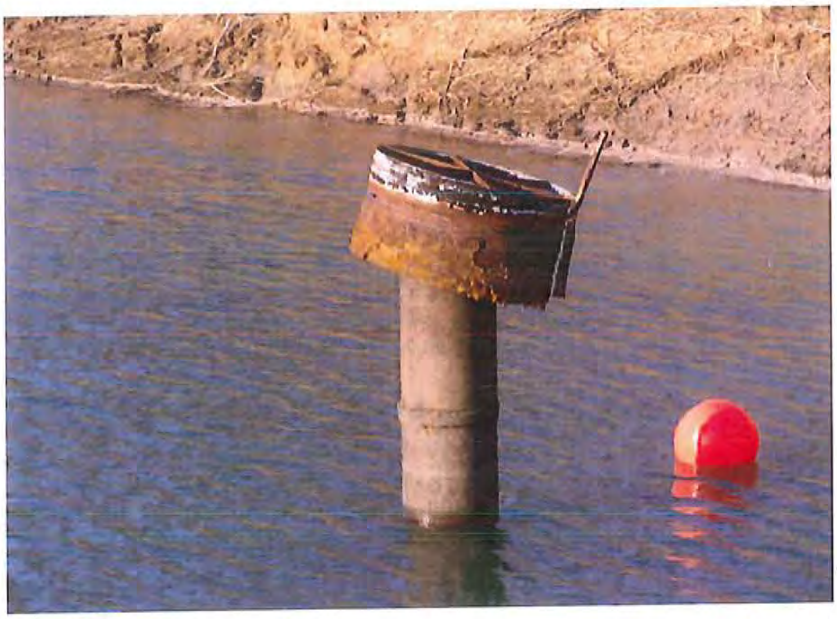
Photograph 8. 3/11/14 aerial photograph of CAPE FEAR 1978 coal ash basin with Godwin pump and truck.

Photograph 9. 3/11/14 aerial photograph of CAPE FEAR 1985 coal ash basin with Godwin pump and truck.



Photograph 10. 3/11/14 aerial photograph of CAPE FEAR 1985 coal ash basin with Godwin pump and truck.

Photograph 11. 3/19/14 photograph of CAPE FEAR 1978 coal ash basin riser, prior to repair work.



Photograph 12. 3/19/14 photograph of CAPE FEAR 1985 coal ash basin riser, prior to repair work.

Photograph 13. 3/19/14 photograph of old grout on CAPE FEAR coal ash basin riser.

Photograph 14. 3/19/14 photograph of new grout on CAPE FEAR coal ash basin riser.

Photograph 15. Aerial Photograph of LEE from 2011 EPA Dam Safety Assessment report.

Photograph 16. Aerial photograph depicting location of RIVERBEND Seep 12.

Photograph 17. Photograph of RIVERBEND Seep 12.

Photograph 18. Photograph of RIVERBEND Seep 12.

Photograph 19. Aerial photograph of ASHEVILLE.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This is an AGREEMENT TO SETTLE AND FOR RELEASE OF CLAIMS (the "Agreement") made and entered by and among North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality ("DEQ") (formerly known as the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources) on the one hand, and Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and Duke Energy Progress, LLC (formerly known as Duke Energy Progress, Inc.) (together, "Duke Energy") on the other. DEQ and Duke Energy (collectively, the "Parties") agree to the following terms as a basis upon which to resolve the issues between them relating to alleged exceedances of state groundwater standards associated with coal ash facilities at sites operated by Duke Energy and its predecessors. By this Agreement, the undersigned settling Parties mutually agree to compromise, settle, and forgo all current, prior, and future claims related to exceedances of groundwater standards associated with coal ash facilities at Duke Energy's North Carolina facilities.

I. RECITALS

WHEREAS, Duke Energy owns and operates the following facilities that are the subject of this Agreement (collectively, the "Duke Energy Sites"):

(1) the Allen Steam Station, located in Gaston County;

(2) the Asheville Steam Electric Generating Plant, located in Buncombe County (the "Asheville Plant");

(3) the Belews Creek Steam Station ("Belews Creek Plant"), located in Stokes County;

(4) the Buck Steam Station, located in Rowan County, which has been retired and is no longer used for the production of electricity;

(5) the Cape Fear Steam Electric Generating Plant, located in Chatham County, which has been retired and is no longer used for the production of electricity;

(6) the Dan River Steam Station, located in Rockingham County, which has been retired and is no longer used for the production of electricity;;

(7) the H.F. Lee Steam Electric Generating Plant ("H.F. Lee Plant"), located in Wayne County, which has been retired and is no longer used for the production of electricity;

(8) the Marshall Steam Station, located in Catawba County;

(9) the Mayo Steam Electric Generating Plant, located in Person County;

(10) the Riverbend Steam Station, located in Gaston County, which has been retired and is no longer used for the production of electricity;

(11) the Rogers Energy Complex (formerly Cliffside Steam Station), located in Cleveland and Rutherford Counties;

(12) the Roxboro Steam Electric Generating Plant in Person County;

(13) the L.V. Sutton Electric Plant, located in New Hanover County (the "Sutton Plant"), which has been retired and is no longer used for the production of electricity; and,

(14) the Weatherspoon Steam Electric Plant, located in Robeson County, which has been retired and is no longer used for the production of electricity.

WHEREAS, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") Permits associated with the Duke Energy Sites contain requirements for Duke Energy to monitor groundwater at the Duke Energy Sites and to report the results to DEQ.

WHEREAS, Duke Energy has at all times complied with its groundwater monitoring and reporting requirements of its NPDES Permits for each of the Duke Energy Sites.

WHEREAS, on June 17, 2011, DEQ issued its "Policy for Compliance Evaluations of Long-Term Permitted Facilities with No Prior Groundwater Monitoring Requirement" (hereinafter, the "2011 Policy for Compliance Evaluations"). The 2011 Policy for Compliance Evaluations attempts to address the situation where groundwater monitoring indicates that a "long-term permitted facility" is out of compliance with the 2L standards, including the conditions under which DENR might issue a NOV to the affected facility.

WHEREAS, the 2011 Policy for Compliance Evaluations includes a detailed flow chart dictating the steps to be taken by DEQ should Duke Energy report any exceedance of North Carolina's groundwater standards as established pursuant to N.C.G.S. Chapter 143 and 15A N.C.A.C. Subchapter 2L at the Duke Energy Sites. Those steps include, but are not limited to: (1) verify the accuracy and significance of the results of the groundwater testing; (2) determine whether and to what extent the identified substance could be naturally occurring; and, (3) evaluate other possible sources of the identified substance.

WHEREAS, on August 26, 2014, DEQ sent Duke Energy a Notice of Violation based upon the exceedances of the State's groundwater standards reported to DEQ for the Sutton Plant (the "Sutton NOV").

WHEREAS, on September 20, 2014, the North Carolina Coal Ash Management Act ("CAMA") became effective. CAMA requires, among other actions, closure and dewatering of all ash ponds at the Duke Energy Sites and dictates, in detail, a procedure for assessing, monitoring and where appropriate, remediating groundwater quality in areas around coal ash

impoundments in North Carolina that follows closely the procedures outlined in DEQ's 2011 Policy for Compliance Evaluations.

WHEREAS, Duke Energy submitted monitoring that showed exceedances of the State's groundwater standards at or beyond the compliance boundary at the Asheville Plant.

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2015, DEQ sent Duke Energy a Notice of Violation, this one based upon groundwater monitoring results reported to DEQ for the Asheville Plant (the "Asheville NOV").

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2015, DEQ assessed a $25.1 million civil penalty (the "Penalty Assessment") against Duke Energy based upon groundwater monitoring results reported to DEQ for the Sutton Plant.

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2015, Duke Energy filed a Petition for Contested Case at the North Carolina Office of Administrative Hearings, challenging the Penalty Assessment on multiple legal and factual grounds (the "Sutton Petition").

WHEREAS, the Parties have engaged in extensive discovery regarding the arguments raised in the Sutton Petition, during which the Parties have concluded that:

(1) The 2011 Policy for Compliance Evaluations is a current DEQ policy that was in effect at the time DEQ issued the Sutton NOV, the Asheville NOV and Penalty Assessment against Duke Energy;

(2) The 2011 Policy for Compliance Evaluations applies to each of the Duke Energy Sites listed above;

(3) The 2011 Policy for Compliance Evaluations states that as "long as the permittee is cooperative with the Division in taking the necessary steps to bring the facility into compliance, a notice of violation may not be necessary."

(4) During the discovery process internal e-mails and testimony by former DENR management demonstrate that, although not expressly stated in the 2011 Policy for Compliance Evaluations, the intent at the time the 2011 Policy for Compliance Evaluations

was that corrective action would precede any enforcement and would be in lieu of monetary penalties.

WHEREAS, DEQ further acknowledges that the procedures outlined in CAMA are specifically designed to address, and will address, the assessment and corrective action of alleged groundwater contamination associated with coal ash facilities at the Duke Energy Sites. In combination with the specific requirements of CAMA, DEQ further acknowledges that this Agreement fully addresses and resolves all issues related to groundwater contamination associated with coal ash facilities at the Duke Energy Sites, including all groundwater violations alleged in the state enforcement actions currently pending in Superior Court in Wake and Mecklenburg Counties.

WHEREAS, DEQ and Duke Energy have determined that it is in the best interest of the Parties, the environment, as well as the citizens of North Carolina, that they enter into a compromise settlement to avoid the time and expense of prolonged litigation so that the Parties may focus the same on the assessment and, if necessary, corrective action of alleged groundwater standard exceedances at the Duke Energy Sites.

WHEREAS, DEQ and Duke Energy have determined that the actions provided for in this Agreement and the provisions of CAMA represent the best course for prompt assessment and remediation of any alleged groundwater standard exceedances at the Duke Energy Sites.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises and covenants contained herein and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, DEQ and Duke Energy agree to compromise, settle, and dismiss with prejudice all claims and causes of action related to alleged groundwater standard exceedances associated with coal ash facilities at the Duke Energy Sites upon fulfillment of the terms and conditions set forth below:

II. DUKE ENERGY'S OBLIGATIONS

A. Consistent with 15A NCAC 2L .0106 Duke Energy shall implement accelerated remediation at the Sutton Plant on the following terms and conditions:

(1) Duke Energy will commence installation of extraction wells on the eastern portion of the Sutton Plant property where data show constituents associated with the ash basins at concentrations over the 2L standards ("Constituents of Interest") have migrated off site.

(2) Extraction wells will be used to pump the groundwater to arrest the off-site extent of the migration. The pumped groundwater will be treated as needed to meet standards and returned either to the ash basin or the discharge canal.

(3) This extraction and treatment system will be installed as soon as practicable following receipt of all permits and approvals from DEQ, the issuance of which will occur as soon as practicable. This accelerated groundwater remediation is in addition to and shall be performed concurrent with the coal ash impoundment closure obligations set forth in CAMA.

(4) The extraction wells shall remain operational until such time as Duke Energy demonstrates through sampling, analysis, and appropriate modeling, and subject to DEQ's written concurrence, that off-property constituents of interest have been remediated to 2L Standards and there is no reasonable potential for future off-site migration.

(5) As part of accelerated remediation, DEQ agrees that dry ash can be removed from the head of the ash basins under a construction storm water permit and shall expedite such construction storm water permit in order for Duke Energy to commence the removal of ash which is the source of the constituents of interest from the Sutton Plant. DEQ will issue construction storm water permits for Sutton plant within 10 days of receiving Duke Energy's complete application. Only dry ash from the head of the ash basins will be removed with no impact to wastewater treatment or water levels in the basins. DEQ shall use its best efforts to complete the process of the issuance of the NPDES permit modification at the Sutton Plant to allow for the removal of water and ash beyond the areas covered under the construction storm water permit from the Sutton Plant.

B. Consistent with 15A NCAC 2L .0106 Duke Energy shall implement accelerated remediation at the Asheville Plant, Belews Creek Plant, and H.F. Lee Plant, which are the only three other Duke Energy facilities that demonstrated offsite groundwater impacts in isolated areas that are not impacting private wells in the Comprehensive Site Assessments conducted

pursuant to CAMA. Such accelerated remediation shall be tailored to each facility's unique characteristics.

C. Petitioner agrees to pay to Respondent the sum of seven million dollars ($7,000,000.00) (the "Payment") in full settlement of all current, prior, and future claims related to exceedances of groundwater standards associated with coal ash facilities at Duke Energy's North Carolina facilities. The Payment shall be made by check and made payable to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality and delivered to the following address:

North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality

Sam M. Hayes

217 West Jones Street

Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

The Payment shall be made within thirty (30) days of the receipt by Duke Energy of the acknowledgment described in part III.A. below. The Payment shall be accepted and acknowledged in writing by DEQ as "Payment In Full" in this matter within thirty-five (35) days of the execution of this Agreement.

D. Within fifteen (15) days of the receipt by Duke Energy of the acknowledgment described in part III.A. below, Duke Energy shall file and serve a Voluntary Withdrawal with Prejudice of the Sutton Petition, Case No. 15-EHR-02581, the Petition for Contested Case Hearing filed by Duke Energy related to the Notice of Regulatory Requirements dated July 9, 2014, Case No. 14-EHR-09631, and the Petition for Contested Case Hearing filed by Duke Energy related to the determination that Sutton Lake is waters of state, Case No. 15-EHR-04922.

III. DEQ'S OBLIGATIONS

A. Within five (5) days of the execution of this Agreement, DEQ shall communicate to Duke Energy, in writing, its withdrawal and rescission, with prejudice, of the Sutton NOV, the Sutton NORR, the Asheville NOV, and the Penalty Assessment.

B. DEQ shall not issue any further Notices of Violation, Notices of Regulatory Requirements, other similar notices, unilateral orders or civil penalty assessments to, file any judicial action against, or take any administrative, regulatory, or other enforcement actions against Duke Energy based on or in any way related to any previous or future groundwater monitoring results or alleged groundwater conditions at any of the coal ash facilities at any of the Duke Energy Sites, as long as Duke Energy continues to be in substantial compliance with CAMA requirements as they relate to groundwater assessment and remediation and closure of ash basins, including corrective action plans. DEQ also shall not issue Notices of Violation, Notices of Regulatory Requirements, other similar notices, unilateral orders or civil penalty assessments to, file any judicial action against, or take any administrative, regulatory, or other enforcement actions against Duke Energy based on or in any way related to the classification of Sutton Lake as waters of the State as set forth in paragraph II.D. above.

C. Except as necessary under CAMA or unless ordered or required to change, alter, modify, or amend by a court of competent jurisdiction or by the enactment or amendment of any applicable federal or state statute, rule, or regulation, or in response to an immediate threat to public health, DEQ agrees to not materially modify the groundwater monitoring terms in the existing NPDES Permits and in issuing future NPDES Permits for the Duke Energy Sites. For purposes of this provision "immediate threat to public health" shall mean circumstances beyond exceedances of the applicable provisions of 15A N.C.A.C. Subchapter 2L (the " 2L Standards"). Except as provided in part III.B above, DEQ further agrees to limit the

use of the results of any groundwater monitoring required by NPDES permits or CAMA for the determination of prioritizing the coal ash impoundments and approving closure plans. This provision shall not modify the rights, duties and obligations of DEQ or Duke Energy pursuant to CAMA.

D. DEQ agrees that applicable, enforceable groundwater quality standards and naturally occurring (also known as "background") concentrations shall only be those established pursuant to applicable provisions of the " 2L Standards."

E. Duke Energy and DEQ acknowledge that Duke Energy has been receiving and may in the future continue to receive concerns from individuals or local governments regarding alleged adverse impacts to groundwater from beneficial re-use activities conducted under Distribution of Residual Solids Permits, Ash Reuse Permits or similar permits issued by DEQ or its predecessors authorizing ash reuse programs. Except as otherwise provided by CAMA and the Distribution of Residual Solids permits, Ash Reuse Permits, or similar permits issued by DEQ, DEQ shall be responsible for investigating (including, when necessary, collecting and analyzing groundwater samples) and respond to all such concerns and shall notify Duke Energy of all such responses.

F. DEQ will issue construction storm water permits for Sutton plant within 10 days of receiving Duke Energy's complete application. Only dry ash from the head of the ash basins will be removed with no impact to wastewater treatment or water levels in the basins. DEQ shall use its best efforts to complete the process of the issuance of the NPDES permit modification at the Sutton Plant to allow for the removal of water and ash beyond the areas covered under the construction storm water permit from the Sutton Plant.

IV. LEGAL PROVISIONS

A. Binding Nature of Agreement. The Parties represent and agree that the persons executing this Agreement have full and sufficient authority to sign and agree to be bound by the Agreement, and that this Agreement shall be binding upon DEQ and Duke Energy, and their successors and assigns, upon its execution by all Parties.

B. No Admissions. By entering into this Agreement, the Parties to this Agreement make no admission of liability, violation, or wrongdoing whatsoever, by itself, any of its affiliated companies, or any or its or their present or former officers, directors, employees, or agents.

C. Attorney's Fees, Costs, and Expenses. The Parties agree to bear their own respective attorney's fees, costs, and other expenses that have been incurred in connection with any stage of the state enforcement actions or Duke Energy's Petition for Contested Case related to the Penalty Assessment.

D. Governing Law and Interpretation. This Agreement shall be governed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina without regard to the conflict of laws provisions of North Carolina or any other state, and any provision herein that violates a statute or rule shall be void and unenforceable.

E. Enforceability and Remedies for Breach. The Parties stipulate and agree that this Agreement may be enforced in any court of competent jurisdiction in North Carolina, and that venue is appropriate in either Wake or Mecklenburg County. The Parties' sole and exclusive remedy for breach of this Agreement shall be an action for specific performance or injunction. In no event shall any Party be entitled to monetary damages for breach of this Agreement. In addition, no legal action for specific performance or injunction shall be brought or maintained

until: (a) the non-breaching Party provides written notice to the allegedly breaching Party which explains with particularity the nature of the claimed breach, and (b) within thirty (30) days after receipt of said notice, the allegedly breaching Party fails to cure the claimed breach or, in the case of a claimed breach which cannot be reasonably remedied within a thirty (30) day period, the allegedly breaching Party fails to commence to cure the claimed breach within such thirty (30) day period, and thereafter diligently completes the activities reasonably necessary to remedy the claimed breach. This Agreement may be introduced as evidence in any action involving either or both Parties for the purpose of implementing its terms.

F. Severability. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement shall in no way affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision; the invalid or unenforceable provision shall be stricken, without assessing damages or imposing penalties to either Party arising out of said provisions by any court of competent jurisdiction.

G. Headings. The headings used in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only and shall in no way define, limit, expand or otherwise affect the meaning of any provision of this Agreement.

H. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

I. Amendment. This Agreement may not be modified, altered or changed except in a written document that is signed by all Parties and that makes specific reference to this Agreement.

J. Entire Agreement. This Agreement sets forth the entire agreement between the Parties, and fully supersedes any prior agreements or understandings between the Parties related

to the subject matter of this Agreement, including but not limited to alleged groundwater standard exceedances associated with coal ash ponds at the Duke Energy Sites.

K. Review and Signing. Each Party and counsel for each Party has reviewed this Agreement. Accordingly, this Agreement shall be construed without regard to any presumption or other rule of construction requiring resolution of ambiguities against the drafting Party.

L. The Parties agree that this Agreement does not affect in any way the Joint Enforcement Agreement between DEQ and U.S. EPA, the subject of which does not involve any alleged groundwater standard exceedances associated with coal ash facilities at the Duke Energy Sites.

[Signature page follows]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, DEQ and Duke Energy, and their respective counsel have executed this Agreement as of September 29, 2015.

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

By: _____

Its: General Counsel

Date: 9/29/15

KILPATRICK TOWNSEND & STOCKTON LLP

By: _____

Its: _____

Date: 9/29/2015

DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC

By: _____

Its: Associate General Counsel

Date: 9/29/2015

DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS, LLC

By: _____

Its: Associate General Counsel

Date: 9/29/2015

McGUIREWOODS LLP

By: _____

Date: 9/29/15